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Gulf Conflict

Further Khamene'i Remarks—The attack on an Iranian ship was "one of the biggest mistakes the Reagan Administration has made," Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i declared at a New York press conference reported by IRNA. He denied U.S. allegations that the *Iran Ajr* was carrying mines, adding that even if the U.S. accusation were true, the U.S. Navy could have intercepted the ship without attacking it and killing crew members. Khamene'i also said that Iran does not accept responsibility for the attack on the British-flagged vessel *Gentle Breeze* earlier on 21 September.

As for Iran's attitude to UN Security Council Resolution No 598, Khamene'i stressed that "we do not reject" the resolution, notingthat Iran has submitted a "formula" to the UN secretary general in this regard. The main point is punishment of the aggressor, he added, and if this is solved "all other issues" will be solved as well. A "just tribunal" should be formed to determine how the aggressor should be punished, and Iran will accept its verdict. According to Tehran radio's report on his remarks, Khamene'i emphasized that Iran is not defining in advance how the Iraqi regime should be punished. He also said Iran does not want war with the United States, but if this were to occur Iran would have no choice but to defend itself. The president warned the U.S. Administration that it will be blamed by the American people for any U.S. lives lost in the Gulf conflict. Khamene'i's departure for Tehran via Geneva was reported by the radio 24 September.

Prisoner Handover—The Omani Foreign Ministry announced that arrangements have been made to receive *Iran Ajr* crew members held by the U.S. Navy and to hand them over to the Iranian Government 26 September, WAKH reported.

Iranian Military Power—Two million people will receive military training under a new program organized by the IRGC, according to an IRGC announcement cited by IRNA. The new recruits will constitute the Islamic revolution's "reserve strength." In another development, the Soviet charge d'affaires in Kuwait denied local press reports that the USSR is engaged in talks with Iran to sell the latter large quantities of arms, KUNA reported. The Soviet denial followed *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm's* 22 September report that Iran and the USSR are holding secret talks on supplying Iran with SAM systems and surface-to-surface missiles. The Kuwaiti paper also claimed that an Iranian delegation arrived in the PRC 17 September to sign a deal for the purchase of Chinese aircraft, tanks, and missiles.

Libya on U.S. Action—Tripoli radio broadcast a Libyan Foreign Liaison Bureau statement which condemned the "U.S. aggression against Iranian ships," and declared Libya's solidarity with the Iranian revolution against the United States.

Turkey-Iraq

The Turkish Foreign Ministry summoned the Iraqi ambassador to draw attention to the cross-border air strike which caused casualties and damage in the Cukurca area and to ask that Iraq take steps against a recurrence of such a

Inter-Arab Affairs

The Jordanian Government decided to restore diplomatic relations with Libya, Amman television reported, noting that the decision was in accordance with King Husayn's instructions and in line with Jordan's "firm commitment" to create Arab unity. The move came at a cabinet meeting called to discuss preparations for the 8 November emergency Arab summit.

In other diplomatic developments, Amman radio announced that King Husayn left for Syria 24 September to hold talks with President Hafiz al-Asad aimed at achieving a united Arab stand on issues of concern. Earlier, King Husayn received Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali, who delivered a message from King Hassan II praising Husayn's efforts toward Arab solidarity, Amman television reported. In talks that accompanied the audience, the two sides expressed identical views on the need to end the "destructive" Iran-Iraq war, and they discussed bilateral relations. The Moroccan foreign minister arrived in Amman from Kuwait where he delivered a message on the Gulf situation to Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Al Sabah, KUNA reported.

At the conclusion of the Arab League Council's deliberations in Tunis, a statement was issued including a condemnation of Iranian "aggression against Arab countries" and a denunciation of cooperation between Iran and Israel, KUNA reported. The Council decided to promote Afro-Arab relations, and it also stated the Arab League's intention to cease aid to African countries which reestablish relations with Israel. Regarding the conflict between Chad and Libya, the Council supported Libya's right to defend its "sovereignty and integrity."

Saudi Arabia

In a speech to military commanders reported by SPA, King Fahd appealed for more college and secondary school graduates to join the armed forces and he urged young men to volunteer to undergo military training for 1 month each year. Stressing the need for the armed forces to reach its full manpower capacity, he said there is a need for greater quality and quantity of personnel.

In another development, King Fahd discussed the Gulf conflict with visiting UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, KUNA noted.

Israel

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres praised his New York meeting with Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze as the "most substantive, intense, and friendly" to date,

in remarks to Jerusalem radio. Peres noted a "great change for the better" regarding the Soviet position on convening an international conference on the Middle East. According to the radio, the USSR has agreed not to include a PLO delegation in any peace talks under an international conference. On the subject of developing bilateral relations, Jerusalem radio reported that the Soviet consular delegation's stay in Israel will be extended and its mandate broadened as a result of the Peres-Shevardnadze talks.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League's Klibi Interviewed on Gulf War

LD240902 Kuwait KUNA in English 0819 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 24 (KUNA)—The top Arab League executive officer has warned Thursday that if allowed to continue and expand further, the Iraq-Iran war would constitute a serious threat to the Arab nationalism and to the civilisation course the Arab world is taking.

Chedli Klibi, the secretary general of the Tunis-based League of Arab States, in a lengthy interview with the Kuwait daily *Al-Qabas* in his Tunis office, described the war which entered the eighth year, as a fire in a corner of the Arab world and threatening to inflame it all.

In four hours of question and answer period, Klibi with the aid of his top assistants, said the Arab League 7-man committee entrusted to examine the Iraq-Iran war, has succeeded in convincing the big powers of the danger of the Gulf war to the international community.

The committee, composed of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, North Yemen and Klibi as ex-officio member, toured the capitals of the five permanent members of the Security Council since its inception three and half years ago in pursuance of its mission.

Klibi placed the long-dragging war between the two Muslim neighbours in the same square as the conflict with Israel in as far as both threaten Arab nationalism highlighting the importance of Arab consensus in changing the world's outlook towards Arab causes.

In this connection, the top Arab League executive called for the return of Egypt, kicked out in 1979 over its signature of a peace treaty with Israel, back to the Arab ranks to play its rightful role in the pan-Arab nationalism struggle, according to him.

Klibi referred to the missiles firing at Kuwait and the incidents of holy Mecca during the pilgrimage last July as examples of the threat of the Gulf war to the Arab nationalism, saying "We are not required to come up with a plan on how to deal with Iran but rather a military plan to win the war or a peace plan to end the war."

Speaking about the often spoken of international conference on the Middle East crisis, the Arab League secretary general said the Arabs expect the conference to uphold two major principles on the Palestinian cause.

The conference is envisaged to include the five permanent members of the Security Council and the parties to the conflict including the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The Arab stance is that the Middle East cause rests on the fulfillment of the rights of the Palestinians as one of a people rather than refugees and the return of the occupied Arab lands to its owners, he emphasised.

In this regard, Klibi said the Arabs welcome the European stand toward the international conference as a step in the direction of the rights of the people of self-determination and the right of the U.N. members to security.

On the question of Lebanon, plagued by Israeli occupation of part of its southern border and a civil war entering the 12th year, Klibi said a voluntary plan to salvage Lebanon should be undertaken by the Arabs collectively.

He said he plans to table a proposal to the Arab League Council to organise a voluntary movement to aid the Lebanese people in all fields.

Arab League Issues Statement on Deliberations

LD231717 Kuwait KUNA in English 1610 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Tunis, Sept 23 (KUNA)—The Arab League Council Wednesday reiterated that the convocation of the international Middle East conference on the Middle East is the only means of achieving peace in the region and condemned Iranian aggression against Arab countries.

Following the conclusion of the Council's deliberations here today, a statement said that the Palestinain problem topped the agenda of the Council and emphasised the necessity of holding an international peace conference on the Middle East to be attended by all concerned parties including the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

It added that the conferees asserted that problems facing the Palestinian refugees are the responsibility of the international community.

It condemned the Israeli measures that aim at liquidating Jerusalem's electricity company and praised solidarity of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab lands and their legitimate struggle against the Zionists.

On means of countering Israeli attempts to gain a foothold in the African Continent, the statement said that the conferees decided to stop Arab assistance to African countries that re-established diplomatic relations with the Zionist entity.

The American decision to close down the Palestine Information Office in Washington was condemned and was considered as an illegitimate move by the U.S. Administration.

The Council examined the U.S. stance which refused to rank Zionism as a form of racism and called for intensifying international efforts to foil the American stand which refuses to accept the international community's will.

She [as received] emphasized that the "fact that Khomeyni needs signs of support for his bleeding people shows that the isolation he has imposed upon them no longer is working."

Condemning the Iranian aggression against Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, the statement denounced military cooperation between Tehran and Tel Aviv and warned against the threats of Iranian Jews' immigration to the Zionist entity.

The Council renewed its commitment of boycotting the apartheid system of Pretoria and expressed its support to national liberation movements in South Africa.

On Afro-Arab relations, the Council decided to further promote relations between the two sides.

The Libyan decision of halting military operations against Chad was welcomed by the Council which supported Libya's right of defending its sovereignty and integrity.

The conferees decided to take urgent measures to assist the Lebanese people who suffer from economic and social problems due to the deteriorating situation in that war-torn country.

On the information field, it was decided to take full advantage of the Arab satellite (Arabsat) and to develop television and radio programmes and activate joint Arab coverage.

The Council ratified the establishment of an Arab television production company and emphasised the importance of enhancing cooperation between Arab countries in various fields as means of achieving development.

The statement said that the conferees approved the signing of a cooperation agreement between the League and UNIDO [United Nations Industrial Development Organization].

Palestinian Affairs

Salah Khalaf on Iranian Jews' Emigration

JN231917 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, has announced that the PLO possesses documents on Zionist-Iranian negotiations with regard to transporting Iranian Jews to occupied Palestine. In a statement to *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*, published yesterday, he said that information about the Zionist-Iranian project was obtained from the occupied homeland. The PLO offices in the involved countries also confirmed the information.

Abu Iyad added that the documents obtained by the PLO in this regard are sufficient. The British weekly newspaper *The Observer* had cited informed sources as saying that representatives of Iran and the Zionist entity had discussed the issue of transporting thousands of Iranian Jews to occupied Palestine in return for Zionist military aid to Iran. The paper said that the talks took place last August during a secret meeting held in Europe to discuss the transporting of 25,000 Iranian Jews to occupied Palestine.

'Arafat Meets Romanian Prime Minister in Tunis

JN231805 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, met in Tunis last night with Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu, who is currently visiting Tunisia.

WAFA, the Palestinian news agency, said today that the two sides had discussed the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas, especially issues related to endeavors to convene an international conference to reach a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict and the Palestinian question. During the meeting, the two sides also reviewed the situation of the Palestinian people in Lebanon, as well as the conditions in the occupied territories.

PLO Leadership Prepares Paper for Arab Summit

LD240938 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] It has been learned from a responsible Palestinian source that a joint meeting of the members of the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC Presidium will be held on 5 October either in Baghdad or in Tunis in order to prepare a Palestinian working paper to be submitted to the emergency Arab summit, scheduled to be held on 8 November in Amman.

The most prominent contents of this Palestinian paper will be an explanation of the Palestinian views with regard to the various issues and developments concerning the Palestinian cause. It will also focus on the importance of putting an end to the Iraq-Iran war in view of its negative effects on the ability to confront the Zionist challenge to and aggression against the Arab nation.

PLO's UN Envoy on Closure of Washington Office

JN231929 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Brother Zuhdi al-Tarazi, the PLO's permanent representative at the United Nations, has affirmed that the closure of the PLO's Information Office in Washington came in response to the PNC's recent call for an international peace conference on the Middle East. In a statement to the UAE newspaper *Al-Ittihad*, he said that the PLO office in Washington has begun to fight the U.S. State Department's decision to close it down. He also noted that the United States has been escalating its war against the PLO since April in an attempt to force it to retreat from its call for the conference.

Zuhdi al-Tarazi added that the closure of the PLO office is an attempt to create certain facts and circumstances that will force the PLO to retreat and lose hope. However, the PLO will not lose hope and it will not retreat, especially in the wake of the U.S. State Department's closure of the office to foil any Palestinian move.

2 Israeli Soldiers Stabbed in Tel Aviv Attack

JN231908 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Communique issued by the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command; date and place not given]

[Text] Pusuant to instructions, our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland used knives to attack two Zionist soldiers on patrol in the Ramat quarter of Tel Aviv yesterday. Our revolutionaries managed to stab them fatally before returning safely to their bases. Immediately after the operation, a large force from the occupation Army and police besieged the quarter, closed roads leading to it, began a large-scale arrest and search campaign, and arrested numerous Palestinian citizens on the pretext of having connections with the attack. Revolution until victory.

Chad

Communique on 23 Sep Libyan Overflights

AB232000 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1922 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Communique issued by the FANT High Command on 23 September in Ndjamena]

[Text] At the same time as the meeting of the OAU ad hoc committee on the Chad-Libya conflict is taking place in Lusaka, Libya continues to conduct flights into Chadian airspace in violation of the cease-fire. This morning two Chadian localities, notably Bardai, were overflown four times by the Libyan Air Force: Bardai at 0740, 0750, 1100, and 1450; and Aozi once at 0947.

Joint Nigerian Commission Opens Talks

AB221810 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Excerpt] The first meeting of the Chad-Nigeria Joint Commission for Cooperation opened this morning in Ndjamena in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs conference room. The deliberations were chaired by (Azoumane el Bakis), the permanent secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with various officials attending the meeting. The Nigerian delegation is led by [name indistinct], secretary in the Department of Aid and Development at the Federal Ministry of Planning.

In his opening speech, the director general at the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation first welcomed the Nigerian delegation on behalf of the head of state. He pointed out the importance of such meetings for our two countries. [passage omitted]

Egypt

Mubarak Receives Bavarian Party Delegation

NC231727 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today received a delegation from the FRG state of Bavaria led by Mr Gerold Tandler, general secretary of the Bavarian Christian Social Union [CSU]. Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, who was present during the meeting, said that Tandler gave Mubarak a message from Dr Franz Josef Strauss, minister-president of Bavaria and CSU chairman. The message deals with Egyptian-FRG ties and other issues of common concern. Al-Sharif added that Mubarak and his visitors discussed Middle East affairs, including the Gulf war and its repercussions, the Palestinian issue, and Egypt's efforts to convene an international peace conference. Bilateral ties and information cooperation were also discussed during the session, Al-Sharif said.

The CSU general secretary said after the meeting that the FRG sees Egypt as an element of stability in the Mediterranean. As well as being a feature of Egypt's foreign policy, stability is firmly embedded in Egypt's home front, an achievement for which President Mubarak should take credit, Tandler said. He also said the Bavarian delegation will hold talks with NDP officials.

Gambian Foreign Minister Arrives 22 Sep

NC222057 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2040 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 22 Sep (MENA)—Gambian Foreign Minister Umar Seye and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo tonight for a 6-day visit. Upon arrival the Gambian minister said he will meet with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, to discuss bilateral relations. He also said he will meet with Dr 'Abd al-Ahad, chairman of the Higher Council of Youth and Sports, and that, in his capacity as president of the Gambian Soccer Federation, he will attend the African Soccer Federation meetings scheduled to begin on Thursday. [passage omitted]

Meets With Ghali

NC241410 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1250 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 24 Sep (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, received today Gambian Foreign Minister Umar Seye, who is currently visiting Egypt. The two officials discussed bilateral relations and Gambia's need for Egyptian technical experts. They also reviewed current African issues and coordination between the two countries prior to the extraordinary African summit due to be held in November.

Statement by American Jewish Congress Hailed

NC231443 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)—Egypt today welcomed a statement recently issued by the American Jewish Congress. The statement said there should be an international conference on peace in the Middle East to break the current stalemate in the Arab-Israeli conflict, promote the peace process in the region, and end Israeli military rule over the occupied Arab territories.

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has described this statement as "positive and constructive," saying it aids the consolidation of peace and security in the region.

PLO's Hani al-Hasan Leaves Cairo for Riyadh

NC232050 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)—Hani al-Hasan, adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, left Cairo for Riyadh this evening, ending a visit of several days to Egypt. During his visit, Hani al-Hasan held talks with Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, and a number of Egyptian

officials. Talks dealt with current developments in the Arab and international arenas, ongoing efforts to convene an international conference for peace in the Middle East, and the coordination of Egyptian and PLO efforts during the next stage.

Cairo Said To Reject Latest Peace Proposals

PM240847 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 19 Sep 87 pp 1, 6

['Abd al-Nabi 'Abd al-Sattar report: "U.S.-Israeli Proposals Instead of International Peace Conference"]

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Cairo confirmed that the United States recently informed Egypt that it is determined not to recognize the PLO, will not force an international peace conference upon Israel, and has asked Cairo to study seriously the latest U.S.-Israeli proposals concerning a solution to the Middle East problem, comprising five points, including the necessity of annexing the middle section of the West Bank, which is densely populated by Arabs, to Jordan, provided that the Jordanian monarch, King Husayn, agrees to sign a separate peace agreement with Tel Aviv.

The second part of the latest U.S.-Israeli proposals concerns the annexation of one-third of the West Bank area to Israel, with the latter retaining a security strip on its borders stretching 12 km north and 20 km south of the Jordan River valley. In addition, the proposals leave the option open for all Arab parties to enter into direct negotiations with Tel Aviv in order to recover the occupied parts of their land, whether in Golan or south Lebanon. The U.S.-Israeli proposals ignore the future of the occupied Gaza Strip, which was under Egyptian administration prior to June 1967.

The sources also added that Egypt has strongly rejected these proposals and reaffirmed its rejection of partial solutions after intensive contacts among Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO and after Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad was consulted through King Husayn.

The sources confirmed that Egypt is presently searching for a greater common denominator between all the plans put forward to solve the Middle East problem and wants to draw up a framework for peace negotiations giving the PLO a role in these negotiations and enjoying international and regional support. Egypt had proposed PLO participation in an international conference as part of a Jordanian delegation but with nonprominent members.

Al-Wafd has learned that Cairo has recently rejected a proposal put forward by Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres to pave the way for Israeli contacts with relevant parties to arrange an international conference. On the other hand, the Soviet Union emphasized the need for an international conference which enjoys full powers to impose a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East and the need for PLO participation as an independent party in negotiations. A high-level diplomatic source regarded the convening of an international peace conference in the Middle East unlikely, at least not within the next 3 years.

Islamic Activists Detained Before Mubarak Visit

PM231541 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 18 Sep 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "600 Opposition and Islamic Groups Members Arrested in Sawhaj"]

[Text] There has been a wave of large-scale arrests in the districts and villages of the Governorate of Sawhaj, the aim being to ensure the safety of President Mubarak when he visits the governorate next week in the course of his election tour and inauguration of some projects there. Some 500 Islamic group members and over 100 political opposition members have been detained. Security officials have told relatives of the detainees that these are just precautionary measures on the occasion of the president's visit and that the detainees will be released.

Muslim Brotherhood Protests Tunisian Trials

PM231545 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 18 Sep 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Muslim Brotherhood Condemns Islamic Movement Trials in Tunisia"]

[Text] The Muslim Brotherhood has issued a statement condemning the methods used in the trials of Islamic movement leaders in Tunisia. It says that the measures taken against the Islamic movement in Tunisia constitute an attempt to distort the Islamic awakening. It is saddening and distressing, the statement adds, to know that the Tunisian Government has denied the defendants the minimum constitutional human right, namely the right to defend themselves and their beliefs in trials which have already been denounced by the whole world. The statement urges the Tunisian Government to tackle the issue wisely and urges Arab and Islamic governments as well as official and popular organizations to raise their voices to request the Tunisian president's personal intervention to end the injustice.

Forces Sent in To Help Quell Mecca Riots

PM231445 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 18 Sep 87 p 1

['Abd al-Nabi 'Abd al-Sattar report: "Egyptian-Saudi Strategy for Protection of Islamic Holy Places"]

[Text] *Al-Wafd* has learned that Egypt recently accepted a Saudi call for an Egyptian-Saudi joint strategy to protect Islamic holy places against any foreign threats. Riyadh had used the assistance of some members of the Egyptian antiterrorist forces in quelling the demonstrations staged by the Iranian pilgrims in the holy mosque. It has also learned that 90 percent of the members of these forces are currently training Saudi security forces to combat riots, demonstrations, and terrorism.

Diplomatic sources in Cairo have confirmed that Egypt immediately agreed to intervene to break up Iranian riots during the pilgrimage season following a telephone conversation between King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and President Mubarak 20 minutes after the outbreak of the bloody incidents. Major General Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Musa is currently in Saudi Arabia to discuss security cooperation between the two states.

Al-Wafd has further learned that all the GCC leaders have welcomed the Egyptian official statements expressing willingness to intervene militarily to protect the region in the event of direct Iranian threats. Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, had stated that the Egyptian Armed Forces strategy is based on pan-Arab objectives.

The same sources confirm that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan is advocating economic aid for Egypt, revival of Egypt's membership in the Arab League, and restoration of diplomatic relations between the Arab states and Cairo to enable it to play its pan-Arab role politically as well as militarily.

Libya

Communique Scores U.S. Gulf Naval Action

LD231356 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has issued a communique on the U.S. aggression against an Iranian merchant ship in the Arab Gulf waters. Here is the text of this communique:

This act confirms that imperialism is a U.S. danger that threatens the peoples and world peace. It additionally confirms that the U.S. fleet currently massing in the Arab Gulf's waters expresses the aggressive nature of the United States. This fleet has nothing to do with protecting navigation, which can be secure only in the absence of military fleets and their departure from areas of international navigation.

This muscle-flexing undertaken by the United States and the Atlanticist states is an exercise in challenging the international will and a provocation and act of terrorism against the region's peoples. Those who believe that the U.S. fleets are protecting them are under an illusion, for the United States has no friends and is interested only in its colonial interests in the world.

The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, while condemning the criminal U.S. aggression against Iranian ships and boats, declares that it stands in one trench with the Iranian revolution against the U.S. terrorist aggression. It additionally calls for the need for an immediate withdrawal of the foreign Atlanticist military fleets from the Arab Gulf.

Giraud Chad Remarks Termed 'Interference'

LD231650 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1520 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Sep (JANA)—French Defense Minister Andre Giraud has considered the announcement of Arab Lebanese volunteers' readiness to go to the Great Jamahiriyah as inopportune. In a statement made in Rome today, Giraud stated that this initiative came at a time when the OAU was engaged in diplomatic measures. Commenting on this statement, JANA's international affairs editor noted:—First: The Great Jamahiriyah is the land of all the Arabs and it is the right of any Arab to come to Libya at any time. Neither Giraud nor anyone else has the right to set the correct time for an Arab to visit an Arab land. Furthermore: This is regarded as an intrusion and blatant interference in inter-Arab affairs. Second: The announcement by Arab volunteers of their intention to go to the Great Jamahiriyah has nothing to do with the OAU's efforts mentioned by Giraud. What infringes upon and violates these efforts are the statements recently made by the French Government inciting agent Habre to engage in aggression and to launch a war against the Great Jamahiriyah. Also violating these efforts are the strengthening of such statements by military moves that pave the way for aggression under the claim of troop redeployments in northern Chad.

Arab Council Praises Initiative on Chad

LD231828 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1650 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Sep (JANA)—The Arab League Council in its 88th session held in Tunis issued a resolution concerning the Great Jamahiriyah's initiative on the definite cease-fire with Chad.

The following is the text of this resolution:

On the basis of the memorandum presented by the permanent delegation of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah concerning the conflict with Chad; on the basis of recommendations by the political affairs committee; on the basis of the principles of African-Arab solidarity; and in accordance with the rules of international law stipulating noninterference in the internal affairs of the others, the nonviolation of territoral integrity of states, and the peaceful settlement of international conflicts, the Arab League Council decides:

1. To praise the decision made by the Jamahiriyah to halt all military operations between itself and Chad, in an endeavor on its part to allow the possibility of national reconciliation without foreign influence.

2. To express its appreciation for the efforts exerted within the framework of the OAU to end the Chadian-Libyan conflict peacefully.

3. To support the Jamahiriyah in the defense of its sovereignty and territoral integrity.

Salvation Front Assails Druze Recruitment

NC231705 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA)—The National Front for the Salvation of Libya, which is led by Dr Muhammad Yusuf al-Muqaryif, has issued a statement commenting on recent reports that Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is recruiting mercenaries to fight against Chadian forces. The statement refers to Druze leader Walid Junblatt's 20 September address to 1,000 Lebanese fighters who participated in the Lebanese civil war. In his speech, Junblatt told the fighters to go and do battle for Arabs and Islam against the Chadian forces.

According to the Front, this news stresses the fact that Al-Qadhdhafi has suffered severe losses in his war against Chad in terms of both personnel and equipment, although he never admits his losses. Al-Qadhdhafi, the Front adds, no longer has confidence in the Libyan Armed Forces' loyalty, particularly after their grueling defeat at the hands of the Chadians. The Front states that Al-Qadhdhafi lost more than 80 of his officers and that over 9,000 Libyan soldiers were killed, wounded, or captured during last year's fighting. About $3 billion worth of military hardware was destroyed during the same period, the Front states.

According to the Front, Al-Qadhdhafi is afraid to move Libyan forces in the direction of Libya for fear that they may head back and unseat him.

The Front maintains that this recruitment of Lebanese mercenaries to fight in Chad stresses several points that Libyan nationalists, whether living at home or abroad, as well as Arab and world public opinion, should understand. The most important of these is the fact that Al-Qadhdhafi, who pretends to be ready for peace, is planning to continue the war against the brother Chadians. This intent, the Front says, is underlined by the repeated violations of Chadian airspace that Al-Qadhdhafi has ordered despite his approval of the cease-fire proposed by the OAU. Al-Qadhdhafi has also refused to attend the peace mission meetings in the Zambian capital.

The statement notes that Al-Qadhdhafi has unfortunately succeeded in implicating the Arab people in his follies and adventures. He has sullied the reputation of the Arabs and muddied their historical and fraternal relations with African neighbors.

The Front additionally points out that Arab silence toward this irresponsible behavior and toward Al-Qadhdhafi's crimes against Chad could mar Arab-African relations and fling Africa's doors wide open to the Arab's enemies. It is deplorable that such a dishonorable enterprise, in which Lebanese mercenaries are taking part, should be launched under the pretense of fighting for the Arabs or for Islam, the Front states.

The statement adds that the logical thing for true Arabs and Muslims to do would have been to keep these fighters in Lebanon to defend it against repeated Israeli attacks, rather than send them to fight the brotherly Chadians. The Front concludes by calling on the Arab people and their leaders to stop Al-Qadhdhafi and his lackeys and mercenaries from tarnishing the Arabs' reputation, as well as their historical and fraternal ties with African nations.

Mauritania

Ba'thist Faction Members Get Light Sentences

AB231651 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 23 Sep 87

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The trial of eight members of the Mauritanian Ba'thist Party, arrested at the beginning of the month, came to a quick end yesterday [22 September]. They were accused of illegal political activities at a time when the head of state, Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, is trying to steer a course through the many religious, political, and racial factions in the country. As a military state, Mauritania brooks no political organizations, but the eight accused got off with what is seen as symbolic sentences amounting to a slap on the wrist. From Nouakchott, Sheif Bakai cabled this report:

[Begin recording] Six of the eight people were given a 6-month suspended sentence and fined the equivalent of about Fr10,000. The two others were acquitted. They had been charged with creating an illegal association and the kidnapping of children. According to official sources, the group was arrested while detaining young people in the (?Kanzanstan) place, and indoctrinating them on the principles of the association. The source added that the children were later freed and returned to their families. Among the group charged before the court was a former minister of information, Mr (Mohamed Yeddih Ould Breidelleil). He was previously arrested with other Ba'thists in 1981 and sentenced to jail for 12 years, but was released early in 1984 in the general amnesty granted by the current head of state, Col Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, when he came to power.

The eight people now sentenced are known to the public as members of the illegal Socialist Ba'thist faction. However, officials declined to publicly admit that this was the reason for their arrest. They insisted upon the fact that eight citizens had committed illegal activities and this was the reason they were brought to court. [end recording]

Foreign Minister on Visit to Morocco

PM211038 Casablanca LE MATIN DU SAHARA in French 16 Sep 87 p 3

[Interview with Foreign Minister Mohamed Lemine Ould N'diayane by Farida Moha in Rabat; date not given]

[Text] *Le Matin du Sahara*: Sir, your visit follows the trip which Abdellatif Filali [Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation] made to Mauritania, your country, last January. You have been received by his majesty the king and you have had talks with Moroccan officials. Can you tell us what subjects were discussed?

N'diayane: President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya asked me to convey a message of friendship and fraternity to his majesty the king. During my visit, we talked a

great deal about bilateral cooperation and ways and means of reviving our trade. Although cooperation between the two countries is satisfactory, we must find ways of strengthening it and further diversifying it. The joint commission, which held its last meeting in Nouakchott, had not met for 10 years, and it gives me pleasure to announce that we have decided to hold its next meeting before the end of this year. The joint commission will meet here in Rabat in the presence of a large number of economic officials from the two countries. This will give us the opportunity to identify all spheres of cooperation.

Le Matin du Sahara: In addition to bilateral cooperation, what aspects of regional or international politics were discussed?

N'diayane: We discussed current issues which concern us all as Africans, Maghrebi, or Muslims, issues such as Chad, the Maghreb's development, events in the Gulf, of course, in light of the UN secretary general's latest attempts at mediation, and especially the Mecca incidents and the possibility of holding an Islamic summit on this question in the near future.

Le Matin du Sahara: At the summit of French-speaking countries in Quebec, some reports from French sources said that your president had expressed grievances to President Francois Mitterrand. Mauritania apparently complained about the effects of the seventh defense wall and violations of Mauritanian territory by the Royal Armed Forces. What are the facts?

N'diayane: This subject was not discussed. Mauritania expressed its anxieties to the Moroccan king when the security wall was being constructed. There was no reason to discuss this subject at the summit of French-speaking countries.

Le Matin du Sahara: Thee question of the Sahara conflict appears to have been deadlocked since the indirect talks under UN auspices last May. The United Nations, which is handling the question, decided to send a delegation of UN technical experts to Laayoune and Smara last June, but the Polisario officially rejected that mission. What is your view of the conflict?

N'diayane: There is certainly deadlock, but this conflict is very complex. All sides are seeking a solution and the referendum is the only official initiative. We must continue to place our hopes in this approach....

Le Matin du Sahara: Kenneth Kaunda, the new OAU chairman, stated recently that he hoped to find a solution quickly....

N'diayane: Everybody is working for a solution; the OAU might find one....

Le Matin du Sahara: You mention the referendum as a solution. What are the facts?

N'diayane: If you look at numerous historical examples, conflicts of this type are often settled by a referendum. A referendum may be useful in settling the Sahara conflict, but there may be another solution. Everybody seems to agree in principle, but not on the methods and this is the problem....There may be another way of breaking the deadlock.

Le Matin du Sahara: What is the alternative to a referendum?

N'diayane: I repeat that it is a very complex problem.

Le Matin du Sahara: There have recently been attacks near the Mauritanian border, and the possibility of Polisario troops using your territory has not been ruled out. Was this question raised by Moroccan officials, and might it be a stumbling block in relations between the two countries?

N'diayane: Relations between our two countries are not dependent on this question. It is often stated that the Polisario uses Mauritanian territory for specific attacks, and I do not know what grounds there are for these allegations. To maintain balanced relations with all our neighbors in the region, we have pursued a neutral policy and have made a great effort to control sensitive areas, as Morocco knows....

Le Matin du Sahara: Do you really have the military means of controlling this vast desert region, which is virtually impossible to control?

N'diayane: We have come a long way since the first attacks when the Polisario entered the country and attacked Nouakchott, the capitol.

Le Matin du Sahara: You said you discussed Maghreb development....Following the Oujda meeting, can we talk of a restoration of diplomatic relations between Rabat and Algiers or is this premature? Were you informed about this?

N'diayane: The two sides agreed on a timetable for meetings. The Algerian foreign minister recently visited Rabat and Casablanca, and, before that, Algerian and Moroccan prisoners were released....What I can say is that the Oujda meeting reduced tension in the region. Any rapprochement between Algiers and Rabat will make a decisive contribution to building the Greater Maghreb, which Mauritania ardently desires.

Taya Receives Romania's Prioteasa

LD240647 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] His excellency the president has received Paula Prioteasa, the Romanian minister of food industry and acquisition of farm produce, who is currently visiting our country to consolidate cooperation between Mauritania and the Socialist Republic of Romania. The visiting minister is also conveying a message from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Morocco

Romanian Premier Arrives 23 Sep

LD232140 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Romanian Premier Constantin Dascalescu arrived in Morocco this afternoon on an official visit that will last until 26 September.

He was welcomed at Rabat-Sale Airport by Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki, members of his majesty's government, Romanian Ambassador to Rabat Emilian Manciur, the governor of Sale, and a number of other officials. [passage omitted]

Constantin Descalescu is accompanied by a number of members of the Romanian Government including Pavel Aron, minister of transportation and telecommunications; Constantin Oancea, minister secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation; Constantin Oancea [name as heard], the deputy foreign minister; and [name indistinct], the deputy minister of chemical and petrochemical industries.

Meets With Laraki

LD241010 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] This evening an extended Moroccan-Romanian working session was held at the office of the prime minister. The session was chaired on the Moroccan side by Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki and on the Romanian side by Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu.

Also participating in the extended working session for the Moroccan side were Bensalem Smili, minister of ocean fisheries and merchant marine; Mohamed Kabbaj, minister of equipment and cadre training; Mohamed Bouamoud, minister of transportation; Moulay Zine Zahidi, minister of state for economic affairs; Mohamed Fettah, minister of energy and mines; Abdallah Azmani, minister of commerce and industry; and Ahmed Cherkaoui, secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation.

Participating in the extended working session for the Romanian side were Pavel Aron, minister of transportation and telecommunications; Constantin Stanca, deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation; Constantin Oancea, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and Dimitriu Niculescu, deputy minister of chemical petrochemical industries.

Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki has held tete-a-tete talks with Constantin Dascalescu, his Romanian counterpart, at the office of the prime minister.

Sudan

Al-Mahdi, Mirghani Discuss New Government

JN241053 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1026 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Sep (SUNA)—Yesterday evening, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister and Al-Ummah Party leader, met here with Muhammad 'Uthman al-Sayyid 'Ali Mirghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party.

The newspaper, *Al-Siyasah*, said today that the meeting was held to review the draft agreement on resumption of the coalition. The draft agreement was submitted by the joint committee, formed from the two parties, in keeping with the general bases and principles on which the two leaders had agreed in previous meetings. The meeting was also held to put the final touches on the agreement, to pave the way for announcing the new government. The 3-day period to declare a new government ends today. This period was established by a responsible source last Monday.

The source previously stated that the prevailing attitude is to resume the coalition between the two parties and without changes in the major ministerial portfolios. Following the breakup of the coalition last month, the two leaders said consultations should be held to form a national government or to resume the coalition between the two parties.

Al-Ummah To Meet 24 Sep on New Government

JN231507 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1442 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Sep (SUNA)—The Political Bureau of the Al-Ummah Party, which enjoys a majority in the Constituent Assembly, will hold a meeting tomorrow, Thursday, to review the current political situation and the ongoing efforts to form a new government.

This was announced in press statements made here today by 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Rahman Naqdallah, Constituent Assembly member and member of the Political Bureau of the Al-Ummah Party. However, Naqdallah has not disclosed anything about the new government formula; whether it will be a national or coalition government.

The Al-Ummah Party had formed two committees to hold political consultations with the political parties and groups on the formation of a government. The two committees submitted their report to the party's Political Bureau yesterday.

Political Parties Sign Peace Accord

EA221924 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] President Moi this evening at State House, Nairobi, witnessed the signing of the peace accord by the Sudanese political parties who have

been holding peace talks in Nairobi for the last 2 days. The peace accord was signed by Mr Eliaba Surur of the Sudanese African parties and Lieutenant Colonel Lual Ding Wol on behalf of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, SPLM and SPLA. Mr Justus Ole Tipis, Kenya's minister of state in the office of the president, signed as a witness on behalf of the Kenyan Government.

President Moi wished the two groups success in their quest for peace and commended their common approach to find a solution to the problems in Sudan. He hoped that the two groups will carry the spirit of peace back home so that peace may be realized in that country. The leader of the SPLM and SPLA, Colonel John Garang, who has been an observer in the Nairobi peace talks, also witnessed the signing of the accord.

Communique 'Text'

EA230941 Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English 23 Sep 87 p 1

[Unattributed report entitled "Sudanese Parties Sign Peace Accord"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Following is the full text of the Sudanese political parties' communique:

In view of the long experience of the Republic of Kenya in maintaining peace since its independence:

Being aware of the two joint communiques issued by the SAP [Sudanese African Parties], Anyanya-II, and SPLM-/SPLA at Addis Ababa and Kampala between SAP and SPLM/SPLA, respectively:

Based on the concern and the interest of the president of the Republic of Kenya to see peace prevail in the Sudan:

The SAP and the SPLA army delegations, met in Nairobi city from 19 to 22 of September 1987:

Having understood the genuine concern of the president of the Republic of Kenya to assist the Sudanese people in their efforts to bring about peace through a nationwide dialogue, the parties concerned adopted the following resolutions:

(1) They call upon all the Sudanese political forces irrespective of their ideological beliefs, race or religion, to join the peace efforts now being pursued by the parties—The SAP and the SPLM/SPLA in accordance with the Koka Dam Declaration of March 1986, and the Sudan Government for speedy holding of the national constitutional conference.

(2) Appeal to the international and regional organizations, such as UN, the OAU and the Arab League to exert pressure on the Sudan Government to endorse the on-going peace process.

(3) The concerned parties urge all the Sudan's neighbouring states and all peace loving countries to use their influence to make it possible for the Sudan Government to adhere to the urgent need for peace process to mature and obtain the desired objectives of the Sudanese people.

(4) It is also the considered view of the concerned parties that due to the desperate conditions currently prevalent in the south in particular, we do hereby appeal to all the neighbouring countries and men of good will in general, that they make available all humanitarian assistance to alleviate the critical conditions that prevail in the south.

(5) In order to safeguard the success of peace process, it is the considered view of the concerned parties that they urge all the contending political forces in the Sudan to refrain from antagonistic and hostile attitudes towards one another.

(6) In order to generate confidence and consolidate genuine unity among the Sudanese people the concerned parties strongly appeal to the Sudanese to refrain from all acts that tend to divide the Sudanese people.

(7) The concerned parties hereby commit themselves to the search for genuine peace. In this respect, the parties express their appreciation and gratitude to the president of the Republic of Kenya, Daniel T. arap Moi and the Kenyan people for their continuous concern for the attainment of peace in the Eastern African region in general and in the Sudan in particular.

Cabinet Decides To Close Cultural Centers

JN241121 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Sep (SUNA)—The Council of Ministers has decided to not allow foreign embassies to open cultural centers and to close all present cultural centers.

A ministerial source told the newspaper, *Al-Ayyam*, that the decision was taken for security reasons related to activities, by some foreign embassies, which do not conform with diplomatic norms and traditions.

Al-Ayyam added that the Council of Ministers had decided a few days ago to reduce the number of diplomatic or nondiplomatic workers at some foreign embassies. In line with the principle of reciprocity, the number of workers remaining would equal the number of Sudanese Embassy employees abroad.

The Foreign Ministry was instructed to communicate the decision to the diplomatic missions in Sudan and to enforce it.

Egyptian Trade Talks Begin 21 Sep

JN221107 Khartoum SUNA in English 1015 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, Sept. 22, (SUNA)—Sudanese-Egyptian talks began here yesterday for activating trade exchange between the two countries in the framework of the trade protocol signed between them the daily *Al-Ayyam* published here today reported.

The talks reviewed all points related to the commercial relations between the two countries and was agreed to overcome all difficulties facing the promotion of these relations, said the chairman of the Egyptian delegation.

The talks will discuss all the issues pertinent to the signing of a new trade protocol between the two countries for the year 1988 he added.

Al-Mahdi Meets World Bank Delegation 20 Sep
JN211429 Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 21 (SUNA)—Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi met here yesterday with the visiting World Bank delegation and discussed with them the bank contribution to his government economic recovery programme.

The bank has initially extended to Sudan 60 million dollars for the said programme, which will be spent on agricultural projects and the provision of raw materials for industry in the country.

The delegation arrived here last Friday on a five-day visit to Sudan to discuss with Sudanese officials at the Ministry of Finance the government economic recovery programme.

Burmah Describes Army's 'Success' in South
JN231543 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1438 GMT 13 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Sep (SUNA)—Major General Fadlallah Burmah Nasir, retired minister of state for defense affairs, affirmed in a press statement today, that the Armed Forces' operations in southern Sudan have been very successful and that the Armed Forces are in control of the situation there.

Burmah indicated that John Garang's political moves in some neighboring African states are evidence of the success of the Armed Forces' military operations. Burmah added that the Armed Forces' requirements of supplies, foodstuffs, and ammunition are being met in full.

Commenting on another issue, Burmah pointed out that thousands of people from the Dinka tribe, John Garang's tribe, are living peacefully with the population of the Al-Masiriyah tribe in the areas of Al-Mayram, Al-Muglad, and Babanusah in the Kordofan region. He added that there are social and economic ties binding the two tribes. Burmah denied recently circulated reports of incidents of enslavement in these areas.

Acting Foreign Minister Returns From Tunis
JN221103 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 22 Sep (SUNA)—Dr Adam Madibu, minister of energy and mining, and acting foreign minister, returned home early this morning after attending the ordinary and extraordinary sessions of the Arab League Council. These sessions were held in Tunis on 20 and 22 September at the foreign minister level. [passage omitted]

Tunisia

Romanian Prime Minister Ends Visit
LD231852 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] At a ceremony this afternoon in the Al-Saada Palace in Marsa, Prime Minister Rachid Sfar and Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu signed the minutes of the political talks between themselves and the Romanian delegation. These minutes define the great paths of future cooperation between the countries.

The talks have resulted in the formulation of a framework agreement aimed at consolidating economic, trade, technical, and scientific cooperation, and bolstering trade. The framework agreement also delineates the spheres of beneficial cooperation between the two countries in the following industries: mechanical and chemical; building materials; port construction; transport; mining, prospecting, and the study of soil layers; and food.

This cooperation may result in the creation of joint companies for production and marketing, participation in the exploitation of some mining resources, technical assistance and training of experts, and the development of trade exchanges in order to achieve exchanges worth $50 million in 1990 and $60 million in 1995.

The Romanian prime minister left Tunis this afternoon after a 3-day state visit. He was seen off by Prime Minister Rachid Sfar and by other officials.

Saudi Arabia

King Fahd Addresses Military Commanders

LD240435 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1825 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 23 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, yesterday afternoon, Tuesday 22 September, at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah received the commanders and officers of the Armed Forces, National Guard, and internal security forces who came to greet him, may God support him.

This reception was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Mamduh ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, chairman of the Bureau of Strategic Studies; His Excellency 'Ali al-Sha'ir, the minister of information; His Excellency 'Uthman al-Hamid, military affairs aide to the minister of defense and aviation; and other high-ranking officials.

During this reception, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two mosques, delivered the following unprepared speech, one that came from a faithful heart, a clear and sincere mind, his true feelings, and a will full of faith in Almighty God as well as in this country's and its citizens' capacity to achieve greater solidarity and mutual understanding.

Here is the text of the speech delivered by the custodian of the two holy mosques:

I would like to express my deep gratitude to our Armed Forces and the various departments related to them, to the National Guard, the Ministry of Defense and Aviation, and the Ministry of Interior. I also thank all departments comprising military men.

It is good luck that we have experienced, thanks to God, the great developments in our military forces, (?as the country needs them) in their land, naval, and air forces.

If we look back 10 years ago, we see the difference between the way we were for years, and what we have become today.

We all know that creating a military force does not depend on the quality of materiel procurement alone—materiel such as battleships, tanks, or aircraft—but rather primarily on God, and then on the preparation of men faithful to their beliefs and their homeland, men completely aware of their duties to protect the homeland.

Thanks to God, we now have thousands of officers who have graduated from Saudi academies, while formerly going abroad was the main way to receive training for the duties a Saudi officer might be entrusted with.

However, we thank God because we now have as many academies of our own as there are abroad in Europe, America, or anywhere else. But I cannot say that they are better.

What characterizes our academies is that their instructors are Saudis, while there is a small minority of instructors from the United States or from Europe retained due to the variety of arms we have acquired. But awareness, competence, and discretion are qualities of the Saudi officer and the Saudi soldier.

From this starting point, we can see ourselves improving from 1 year to the next in all branches of our military. This improvement should be accompanied by the training of cadres who can benefit the country, defend the faith and homeland, and comprehend all these types of arms.

We cannot say that we have all the personnel we need, but we thank God for having acquired many of our needs.

We say we have not yet acquired all the necessary cadres due to our urgent desire to make all our Armed Forces efficient and capable—and capability comes from God—to defend the homeland.

You are all soldiers and you know that things have changed concerning the concept of using arms.

In the past, we relied on light weapons that could be easily mastered. But mastering modern weapons now requires an education that begins at civilian or military colleges.

On this basis, comprehensive crews could be provided, starting from privates to the various officer ranks up to the top level. Even if I am not an expert on the fine points of military matters, I think you will share my opinion that a soldier should have a high level of understanding and perception since he is using weapons that require scientific knowledge learned at a military college. Such training will give him a military role after graduation from the universities, secondary schools, or other civilian colleges. In any case, he will have a very good background in science and general knowledge.

We have many times said that manpower is very important, as we find that some sectors, or part of them, need increased quantity and quality. However, the qualitative increase must bring scientific knowledge.

Countries these days are divided between compulsory conscription and voluntary service.

I think that some large countries, such as the United States and Britain, were using conscription, with their citizens being identified through technical means such as identity cards. But they abolished compulsory conscription and opted for volunteers. The situation does change in case of war. It there is an aggression against the faith—most importantly—or against the country, then we are all soldiers, and in this case a person must learn in a short time. We all know that the basis for this should be prepared and organized ahead of time.

We must always bear in mind that something might happen: Bad things can happen to any country in the world. At the moment we face no problems and are

involved in no difficulties, but our main issue is that of Palestine, the Palestinians, and their right to return to their homeland. As for the existing problems in the Arabian Gulf—we do not know when and where they will end.

In fact, we would be pleased to see an end to this problem, as it is one between two Muslim countries, and everybody thus loses. It would be beneficial, and in the interest of all, to close our Islamic ranks. The first step toward closing Islamic ranks came from this country and was strongly supported by His Majesty King Faysal, may God's mercy be upon him, until it reached its current phase. There are now Islamic conferences that include all Islamic countries.

An Islamic gathering does not entail harming others; the advantage of an Islamic gathering is that Islamic states and their leaders agree on their interests, which stem from Islam. Everything, large or small, has been mentioned by God Almighty in the Koran and has been clarified by the prophet. Likewise, there is no other heavenly faith or material conviction that is better than Islam.

I do not object to other beliefs. Every individual is free, and every country is free to act as it wishes within its internal domain. But I am a Muslim. I have read the Koran, and I have read what I could master of the prophet's sayings. I have read the biographies of the khalifs, and I have read about Muslim leaders.

When one examines the virtues of Islam, one finds that it has brought together the best of this world and the afterlife. Everything has been dealt with by the Islamic conviction, be it mercy, affection, good behavior, dealings between Muslims, or the use of force to defend the faith and the homeland.

Our Islamic faith is a perfect conviction. It is a faith for this life and for the afterlife. Our country has been gifted with a place and a position of which it is proud. It has the two holy sites, which is the highest and best thing a Muslim can achieve.

Our God has honored us and put us in the service of the two holy mosques, God's holy houses, his prophet's mosque, holy Mecca, and Medinah.

This means we have greater duty than our other brothers, because more than 1 billion Muslims face, five times a day, the sacred mosque. Our duty is heavy regarding serving the sacred places and our actions to facilitate the pilgrims' task, which is part of the same duties. I would like to add that this should be enhanced by a military force that is able to defend the faith if someone dares to harm our frank and clear conviction.

Power does not just mean having aircraft, battleships, tanks, and other such things; power is the power of God more than anything else. [passage omitted]

We are now building; and as I have explained, building takes time, and building without manpower means it will take a long time to achieve what we want.

Therefore, from this meeting place, I appeal to all university graduates, general secondary school graduates, and institute graduates to join the Armed Forces.

Fortunately, I have received a good response from parents in the western, central, southern, northern, and eastern zones. [passage omitted]

If there are 50,000, 60,000, or 100,000 secondary school graduates who serve their country for 2 years and are then replaced by others, this means that within a few years there would be no less than 400,000 or 500,000 persons who can easily serve the country at any time that they are needed.

Every city in the country has fully equipped military camps. Therefore, it is possible that for 2 months every year our sons could go to the camps and be trained for 1 month, and then be retrained again so that they do not lose touch with the specialty for which they were trained. I hope our sons will come of their free will and do this. [passage omitted]

If one knew specifically when a problem would occur, he would prepare for it. But we must be ready and do our best now.

I think that perhaps there are many persons all over the world who hate this country just because it is a stable country—one enjoying freedom of Islamic faith— just because it gives individuals and groups the comprehensive and unconditional freedom to do anything they wish as long as it does not displease God. Islam actually prohibits things that directly harm us. [passage omitted]

There are those who try to find something wrong with Islam. Sometimes we hear those who describe this faith as a reactionary and undeveloped faith, one that cannot develop with modern times.

These are our enemies, and no one cares what his enemy says. [passage omitted]

The enemies of Islam try to distort its image through some naive Muslims. However, I do not think anyone can make a Saudi Muslim deviate from his faith and go over to another faith.

In general, those who exploit the naive say, for instance, that to become progressive, developed, and civilized, you cannot, in modern times, combine Islam and civilization.

One who has no firm faith can be fooled by these things, so when we stick to Islam this means that we stick to our true and correct conviction. Thus, when one fights an enemy, he fights him out of conviction in defense of his country and his Islamic faith.

Probably one of God's greatest gifts to us is that he made this country the origin of the revelation and the source of the message. God has honored us to be in the service of

Islam and of Muslims in these sacred places. Therefore, we should safeguard this great gift and our ears should always listen to the orders of God and his messenger.

We are now in the year 1408. Since the time of the prophet, the khalifs, the imams, the good Umayyad and Abbasid dynasties, and the ensuing governments in the Islamic world, there have been Islamic and Muslim governments throughout, acting upon Islamic conviction and conquering the world. If today we find Muslims all over the world, it is because they favored Islam and spread it not by force but by conviction.

When a student or expert discusses religion, he speaks out of expertise and knowledge and tries to explain Islam correctly—as stated by God and the prophet. No one can say no to him.

But when he tries to go beyond logic and reason, to what is called fanaticism—which is alien to Islamic conviction—then people say no to him and categorically reject this.

Sadly, one sometimes finds people who come from abroad to teach us our faith, whereas logically we should undertake this task inside our country and in other countries. I wish they were sincere, and that their purpose was honest. However, they did not gain access to this country. They completely failed in everything they did, except in the name of Islam. [sentence as received]

I am not saying that all those who come trying to explain Islamic conviction—because God has bestowed them with the ability and knowledge—do not know the Islamic faith; on the contrary, some of them are learned, and we love them.

Nevertheless, we should not forget that there are those who are trying to invade this country. How can one invade it? One invades in the name of Islam. But he is a liar; he can climb or enter the mosque without having performed the ablution—why? Islamic conviction is the sole form of access, and no one can have access to us through other entries. [passage omitted]

King 'Abd al-'Aziz once said: After oil was found here, I knew it was the earth's riches. We were fortunate that oil was discovered only after the countries around us had agreed to independence. Had it been discovered before this, colonizers would then have come. [passage omitted]

We today can state that we possess, God willing, more than a preparatory military nucleus, but I definitely and absolutely insist that we do not desire to be the aggressors against anyone. We do not want to enter into conflict with anyone, but we will not allow anyone at all to violate one inch of our territory. If you are not the aggressor but rather the one trespassed against, God will make you victorious and assist you, because you are not committing outrages against others. I wish to seriously remind you, for the second time, that our sons' joining the military forces in academies or camps is one of the primary goals, so that our military force can acquire its full capacity of manpower.

Aviation today has become a fundamentally important matter. A state without powerful aviation—power is to God—will not be able to protect its homeland and its Army. [passage omitted]

When we say we are a state, we do not mean to be a state whose mission is to look for weak points and exploit them. No. We are a state that does not wish to look for any other country's weak points unless that country commits an aggression against us; then no one can blame us for defending ourselves. God willing, anyone who commits an aggression against this country will be the loser.

May the security that God granted this country and its people continue, because all of us from the country's north to its south, from its east to its west are serving Islam and Muslims. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

Shaykh Zayid Departs Geneva for Jeddah

JN231136 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0817 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Geneva, 23 Sep (WAKH)—UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan departed Geneva for Jeddah today. He will meet there with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, during his brief visit. His highness is expected to return to the UAE this evening following a several-day visit abroad.

Meets Fahd, Returns Home

LD232145 Kuwait KUNA in English 1921 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sept 23 (KUNA)—President of the United Arab Emirates Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan returned home tonight from Jeddah following a short visit to Saudi Arabia.

During the visit Shaykh Zayid held talks with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia that dealt with the current Arab situation.

The talks also tackled the situation in the Gulf region in the light of the developments in the Iraq-Iran war and the threat that war is posing.

The talks stressed the need to reach a unified Arab stance and working for the success of the forthcoming Arab summit conference to be held in Amman next November.

The Palestinian crisis and the situation in Lebanon were also discussed by King Fahd and Shaykh Zayid.

Shaykh Zayid's visit to Saudi Arabia was the last stop of a tour that took him to Syria, Morocco, Turkey and West Germany.

Reportage on Tariq 'Aziz UN Activities

Meets With France's Raimond

JN221855 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] United Nations, 22 Sep (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond in New York this evening. The two sides discussed efforts under way to implement UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which calls for ending the Iraq-Iran war. They also discussed the state of affairs in the Gulf region and the results of the UN secretary general's recent visit to the area. Tariq 'Aziz is currently in New York to participate in the UN General Assembly session.

Confers With Richard Murphy

JN230943 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] New York, 23 Sep (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here last night with Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state. They discussed developments in the Arab Gulf region and a number of current important international issues. They also discussed the recent efforts of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to implement Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for a comprehensive end to the Iraq-Iran war.

Meets European Foreign Ministers

JN231759 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1726 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] New York, 23 Sep (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with the foreign ministers of three European countries. The Iraqi foreign minister held three meetings with Finnish Foreign Minister Kalevi Sorsa, Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, and Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek. The talks at these three meetings dealt with developments in the Iraq-Iran war, efforts to implement UN Security Council Resolution No 598 calling for an end to the war, and other relevant issues. It is known that 'Aziz is currently attending meetings of the 42d UN General Assembly.

Trade Minister Leaves for Meeting in London

JN221157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1107 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Sep (INA)—Iraqi Trade Minister Dr Muhammad Mahdi Salih left for London today to head the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the sixth joint Iraqi-British committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, which began its preparatory technical work there on 17 September.

The trade minister said that during its meetings the committee will discuss the issues on its agenda, including trade exchange, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, and future trends in this regard. The committee members will also assess the results of the minutes of the committee's fifth session, which was held in Baghdad in October. The Iraqi delegation comprises representatives from the Ministries of Heavy Industries, Oil, and Planning. The delegation also includes representatives from the Central Bank of Iraq.

Communique No 2,840 Details 22-23 Sep Combat

JN231652 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,840 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious Armed Forces have continued their heroic activities in the operational theaters. The following is a roundup of these activities for last night and today:

1. Our heroic Air Force carried out 87 combat missions to strike at enemy economic installations, cited in Communique No 2,839 issued at 1200 today, and to destroy enemy weapons and hardware in the operational sectors. Our aircraft then returned safely to base, God be praised.

2. During the 2000-2135 [1600-1735 GMT] period last night, the enemy deployed 15 boats in an abortive attempt to approach the jetty in Al-'Amiq Port. With its customary courage, the port's valiant force clashed with the enemy boats and, with God's help, completely destroyed two vessels. The two boats were seen burning and then disappearing into the waters of the Arabian Gulf. The remaining boats were forced to flee. May God bless the men of our heroic Navy and the personnel of Al-'Amiq Port, their commanders, officers, and men.

3. Through 31 combat missions our brave helicopter gunships inflicted new losses on the aggressors in the operational sectors. They then returned safely to base, God be praised.

4. Our forces fired on a group of enemy soldiers, killing or wounding a number of them, and one ammunition dump was blown up in the I Army Corps northern sector.

5. Two enemy rogues were killed and one machinegun was destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

6. Four vehicles and one machinegun emplacement were burned and destroyed and five ammunition dumps were blown up in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

7. Five positions were destroyed and one vehicle was burned in the VII Army Corps sector.

8. The criminal enemy shelled Basra and Al-Zubayr with long-range artillery last night and today. The shelling martyred 10 civilians, including 2 children, wounded a number of citizens, and inflicted damage on two mosques, one school, one hospital, and a number of houses. The enemy also shelled the (Bimalik) residential complex, martyring one child. To our martyrs heaven and to our wounded a swift recovery, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 September 1987

'Savage' Shelling of Basra Continues

JN241030 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Basra, southern Iraq, 24 Sep (INA)—The long-range Iranian artillery today continued its savage shelling of Basra, southern Iraq. The Iranian artillery shelling of Basra and its suburbs continued throughout last night and this morning. It is still going on. The cowardly Iranian shelling has resulted in the martyrdom of a number of people and the injury of others. It has also caused damage to civilian property.

INA Reports Resistance Operations in Mehran

JN220942 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Sep (INA)—The Iranian opposition has said that units of the Iranian National Liberation Army [INLA] have recently escalated their combat operations against the Iranian regime's forces near the city of Mehran in the Governorate of Ilam, killing or wounding 110 of the regime's forces and capturing 11 others.

A report carried by Mohahed radio, mouthpiece of the Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq organization, heard here today, said that INLA units had attacked the Khomeyniite forces' positions in the area with light and medium weapons. The report added that during their attacks the units planted mines on the roads leading to these bases. The explosion of one of these mines under a military vehicle belonging to the Iranian regime resulted in the killing of all its occupants, as well as the destruction of the vehicle and the weapons it was carrying.

Ahvaz Alliance Statement on War Anniversary

JN221152 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Sep (INA)—The National Alliance of the Arab People of Ahvaz has called on the Iranian people to topple the racist Khomeyni regime and to establish an alternative democratic regime in its place—one that can give the oppressed national minorities in Iran their legitimate rights.

In a statement issued on the eighth anniversary of the war, the Alliance stressed the need to implement UN Security Council Resolution 598 and to force the Iranian regime to implement all of its provisions and to respect the international community's will.

The Alliance strongly condemned the sacrilegious aggressions perpetrated against the holy Mecca mosque and denounced the panic created among Muslim pilgrims by elements of the Iranian regime—things which expose the Iranians' abject failure to achieve any victory on the warfronts with the aim of keeping the masses in the dark regarding the internal strife in Iran.

Soviet Consular Delegation To Extend Stay

TA240514 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] In New York it was officially reported that the Soviet consular delegation in Israel will extend its presence due to the good talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his Israeli counterpart Shim'on Peres. Yesterday our correspondent reported that the Soviet foreign minister also expressed willingness to broaden the delegation's authority.

Peres, Shevardnadze Comment After Meeting

TA231617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] The 2-hour meeting between Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in the offices of the Soviet delegation to the United Nations ended a short time ago. The Soviet foreign minister said the talks were substantive and dealt with problems related to a Middle East settlement. He said they discussed these issues in detail and in concrete terms. Shevardnadze noted that the most important outcome of the meeting was the agreement that contacts will continue.

Speaking to our correspondent in the United States, Shim'on Schiffer, Foreign Minister Peres said this was the most penetrating and friendly conversation he has held with his counterpart. Regarding the exit of Soviet Jews, Mr Peres said that he emerged hopeful from the meeting and disclosed that ways to bring Soviet Jews directly to Israel were discussed.

Peres Interviewed on Meeting

TA231755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Report from UN Headquarters in New York by Shim'on Schiffer following the Peres-Shevardnadze meeting on 23 September—recorded]

[Text] [Schiffer] Brimming with smiles, the two foreign ministers, Peres and Shevardnadze, were photographed at the entrance to the Soviet delegation's building flanked by a bust of Lenin. The meeting was attended only by Dr Nimrod Novik on the Israeli side and a Soviet interpreter besides the two foreign ministers. Mr Peres has already briefed Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on the specifics of the meetings, during which, among other things, the Soviets agreed for the first time not to include a PLO delegation in the peace talks within the framework of an international conference. As for bilateral relations, the authorities of the Soviet consular delegation in Israel will be expanded and it will deal with issues that go beyond those it originally came to Israel to deal with. This was stated by Minister Shevardnadze. A short while ago I interviewed Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres on his conversation with Minister Shevardnadze.

Mr Foreign Minister, how would you sum up this long meeting you held with your Soviet counterpart?

[Peres] It was the most substantive, intense, and friendly one I have held with him to date. I say this although there appears to be a contradiction in these three adjectives, but I did experience all three things and can say that our conversation really covered all the issues. I want to give credit to Mr Shevardnadze by saying that throughout the meeting I did not notice even a fraction of hostility toward Israel or toward the Jewish people, although on some points I was quite firm and biting in my complaints about the Soviet Union.

[Schiffer] Regarding the international conference: Can you tell us that the Soviet position on the format of that conference and Soviet participation in it have changed?

[Peres] In one area there is definitely a great change for the better, although some differences of opinion still exist. Mr Shevardnadze virtually read out to me from a written text the updated Soviet stance, which is different from the old position. He added that this is something which we must go over in greater detail and in greater depth and suggested that we not do this now but at the earliest opportunity possible.

Incidentally, a very interesting thing which surprised me was that, like us, he too believes that time is slipping by. It was my impression, or actually more than just an impression, that the Soviets are interested in finalizing everything they can with the incumbent U.S. Administration. They believe quite rightly that we, too, have an interest in obtaining the maximum from or making the most progress with the current administration.

[Schiffer] In the last few days we have heard Soviet threats in connection with the missiles Israel possesses. What was his position on this matter?

[Peres] I think I can quote him on this. He said: The United States and the Soviet Union are richer than you or the Arabs. We, too, have reached the conclusion that it is pointless to pursue the arms race in the present manner. How much can Israel invest in missiles or other weapons and how much can the Arabs invest in them, for that matter? In other words, this was the context. No threats whatsoever were made.

[Schiffer] As for bilateral relations: Can you see the ties improving, tightening? Are there any indications that Israel and the Soviet Union are marching in the direction of a further thaw?

[Peres] Without a doubt. Let me tell you, however, that this is where we differed. I told him that we are not presenting ultimatums to the Soviet Union, but the Soviet Union regards diplomatic relations with us as a reward, shall we say, for Israeli acceptance of an international conference, while I regard it as a means of promoting the peace process.

I told him jokingly that he was using a capitalist approach. He asked me: What do you mean? And I answered: In a capitalistic regime, in order to obtain a

loan from the bank, one must convince the bank that one really does not need the loan. And I told him: With regard to relations, you want to grant us ties when neither you nor we are in such dire need of them. He said: Well, it seems sometimes one has to learn something from capitalism, although not always.

[Schiffer] What about the exit of Jews from the Soviet Union? What is your impression after the meeting? What good tidings can you bring us?

[Peres] We have two major issues to discuss with the Soviets in this context: to obtain an increase in the number of exit permits issued and to allow the Jews who want to come to Israel to do this via direct flights. My impression was that the Soviet foreign minister thought that in fact things are happening as they should. The proposals I raised regarding ways to allow the Jews to arrive in Israel directly came to him as a surprise, a technical surprise. He did not reject my proposals out of hand and I am hoping to get an answer to them within a few days.

[Schiffer] Thus, in 2 days there were three meetings with foreign ministers from Eastern Europe. We learned this evening that next week Mr Peres will confer with the PRC foreign minister. This will be the first public meeting between the foreign ministers of the PRC and Israel in many years.

Peres Chosen 'Man of the Year' in Poll

TA232010 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Sep 87 p A1

[Text] Last night Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres was chosen "Man of the Year," as the most popular personality of the past Jewish year. This emerges from a nationwide public opinion poll conducted by the PORI Institute for *Ha'aretz* at the end of the Jewish year. Of all those questioned, 18.4 percent chose Shim'on Peres as the most popular personality in Israel over the past year. The poll editor, PORI Director Refa'el Gil, notes that in the annual PORI polls on this topic a government leader is generally chosen, but the choice of a foreign minister is unusual. At the same time, it should be noted that last year Shim'on Peres (who was at the end of 2 years of service as prime minister at the time) was chosen "Man of the Year" by 32.2 percent (*Ha'aretz* 3 October 1986).

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir came in second place with 5.3 percent; Moshe Arens third (3.9 percent); Finance Minister Moshe Nisim fourth (3.5 percent); President Hayim Herzog fifth (2.6 percent); Ari'el Sharon sixth (2.5 percent); Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin seventh (2.3 percent); and Menahem Begin eighth with 1.5 percent. Other figures mentioned with about 1 percent of all votes were Lova Eli'av, Yitzhaq Navon, 'Ezer Weizman, Yitzhaq Moda'i, Yosi Sarid, Meir Kahane, Shulamit Aloni, Teddy Kollek, David Levi, and Abie Nathan. Of all those interviewed, 39.8 percent 2,100 men and women given private interviews throughout the country. [Sentence as published]

Shamir Interviewed on Peace Prospects, USSR

TA231738 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR (New Year supplement) in Hebrew 23 Sep 87 pp 8-10

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by *'Al Hamishmar* editor Mark Gefen and political correspondent Dalya Shehori in Jerusalem; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [*'Al Hamishmar*] Mr Prime Minister, the settlement drive in Judaea and Samaria is part of a certain concept and we would like to ask you about that concept. Over the last few months you have launched very vigorous political activity against the idea of an international conference. As part of this drive you went to meet Ceausescu, you issued a call to Husayn, you said that you are countering the international conference idea with your own idea of a regional conference, and you even offered to include Saudi Arabia in such a conference. The question—or perhaps two questions really—is: A) What will you discuss with Husayn? In other words, what can you, as one who champions the concept of Greater Israel, offer him? B) You suggested Saudi Arabia, and that may be important, but what about the Palestinian people who form the heart of the problem or at least its kidneys?

[Shamir] I held talks, and still do, with the goal of attaining peace. I follow a road that is fairly well paved; it is the road of Camp David. Of course there may be slight deviations here and there, but the Camp David path involves not only peace with Egypt, which was linked to the withdrawal from the Sinai. It also had a second part, namely offering a solution to what is known as the Palestinian problem by way of granting even full autonomy.

Naturally these negotiations should include a delegation representing the Palestinian Arab population, as we agreed upon at Camp David. I do not believe we should conduct negotiations with the PLO over this—I even think this is impossible—because the PLO opposes this course, which would lead to peace. But certainly it is necessary to reach a solution that would be more or less acceptable to the Palestinian Arab population as well. I am trying to explain my positions and I say only this: One should not nurture the illusion that the State of Israel and the Jewish people may one day decide to sever all links with Judaea and Samaria. This is a dangerous illusion and we should not entertain it at all.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] Do you mean to say that this nonseverance, or actually link, would take the form of open borders?

[Shamir] No, no. I am not talking about this. I am talking about a political formula that would not involve severance. My underlying assumption is that Jews and Arabs will live forever on this land. I see no possibility of another territorial partition on top of the one that already exists. It is necessary to find the political formula that would not spell the severance of Jews from their land. Jews cannot be separated from any part of Eretz Yisra'el.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] Mr Shamir, we have two questions in this connection. The first has to do with this link. According to the forecasts in Dr Meron Benvenisti's latest report, the number of Jews and Arabs in Israel and the territories will be even in the year 2010. You yourself have admitted that unfortunately there is hardly any immigration. In light of those statistics, how can one talk about a link if one wants to preserve the State of Israel's Jewish character? The second question is related to the PLO. You reject any communication with the PLO under any circumstances. But if in theory the PLO says one day: We revoke the Palestinian Charter; we recognize Israel's right to exist; and we are prepared to negotiate with Israel—then this will truly be a different PLO. The day the PLO changes its character, why not talk to it, if the Palestinians claim that it is their representative? After all, we are in no position to determine who will represent them.

[Shamir] First, regarding the statistics: They have always been against us, against the Jewish people and the Zionist movement.

We remember full well the statistics from the times of the British commissions, such as the Simpson Report, which stated that this land has no more room even for a cat and that was in the 1930's! So I do not panic from statistics. Still, we must find a way to deal with this. The problem of non-Jewish elements in Eretz Yisra'el has been our lot throughout our existence in this land, even millennia ago, when the people of Israel lived on their land before they were exiled from it. I believe in immigration and have no doubt that Israel will be a Jewish state. We must find a way to live with the Arabs in this land.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] Do you mean that they would enjoy equal rights?

[Shamir] I do not know. I cannot determine the nature of a future agreement at this juncture. We will find the way. I recall the times when Jabotinsky said that even if we have a majority of only 51 percent, we will decide to establish a Jewish state.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] But Jabotinsky also advocated granting equal rights, did he not?

[Shamir] Yes, that is true. We are in favor of equal rights.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] Jabotinsky would no doubt have shuddered to hear your fellow members of Herut mention the word "transfer"...

[Shamir] First of all, he would never hear me say it. But there are others who believe in it. Everyone is entitled to his own thoughts in Herut. [passage omitted]

[*'Al Hamishmar*] We have a problem here because Israeli rule over the West Bank, where the Palestinians reside, blocks any form of political activity. Had there been such activity, perhaps a different representation for them would have emerged.

[Shamir] Here we have the security problem, which is of prime importance. The basic assumption in the Camp David agreements was that the first step in autonomy would be democratic elections for choosing the administration to rule over these regions and be the legitimate representation. We must find a way to realize that and I am sure such a way can be found. The PLO, however, is an obstacle.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] There is another obstacle, too: Jordan did not sign the Camp David accords, so they are not binding on it.

[Shamir] We cannot force Jordan to follow suit; we are merely suggesting, trying to convince it that this is the best and most realistic way. Unfortunately even Egypt, which signed the Camp David accords, does not feel committed to these agreements, at least insofar as they relate to the solution of the Palestinian problem. But adopting agreements is not a legal matter; it is a matter of persuasion. I believe this is the best way for both the Palestinian population and Jordan.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] Allow us to present you with a blunt and highly hypothetical question. As an Israeli freedom fighter and member of LEHI [extreme rightist faction that split off from the Irgun], if you were a Palestinian living in Judaea and Samaria today, what would you do?

[Shamir] It is naturally hard for me to answer such a hypothetical and speculative question.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] Golda Meir called herself a "Palestinian"...

[Shamir] I too regard myself as a Palestinian Jew. "Palestine," after all, is merely a geographic term. And when I say that this path, which I favor, satisfies the interests of the Palestinian Arab population of our country, I presume that if I were in their shoes I would have understood this, just the way I try to explain it to them today.

I do not believe the Arab national liberation movement has always been committed to fight for the Arab character of Eretz Yisra'el. There was a slight change in their theory. They had many independent Arab countries and could afford to introduce a certain change on this point. It is true that following Algeria's war of independence they changed their dialectics and presented our conflict not as an Arab-Israeli conflict but as a Palestinian-Arab conflict, although this did not change anything essentially. All this, however, is theory, whereas I believe reality has proved this theory. It is a fact that the PLO has not succeeded and that there are, furthermore, no signs that it will and I am saying this with the greatest degree of objectivity I can muster. [passage omitted]

[*'Al Hamishmar*] Regarding Soviet Jews, in the past few months the Soviet Union has been issuing exit permits to 1,000 Jews per month. Does it not deserve some gratitude? A good word? Does it only deserve complaints and bickering?

[Shamir] First of all, we have not reached the 1,000 per month mark, although there is an improvement and there are changes. Yet there were times in the past, specifically during Brezhnev's term, when 30,000, 40,000, or even 50,000 were allowed to leave every year. Then too we complained: We wanted more, we wanted a change of policy. Incidentally—and this might interest you—this year, for example, the Soviet Union is issuing more exit permits to Germans than to Jews. The Germans have already passed the 1,500 mark. Therefore, all we want is a change of policy and I think we have a right to demand this.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] One could say that a dialogue of sorts has begun between Israel and the Soviet Union recently. Are you satisfied that the dialogue actually is being conducted by the Foreign Ministry, which advocates something which you firmly oppose, namely an international conference, and that this is precisely the chain that links the Foreign Ministry's position to that of the Soviet Union at the present moment?

[Shamir] First of all, I regret to say that there is no dialogue as of yet. This is not a dialogue. It is scraps of a dialogue but not a real dialogue in which we have the chance to sit down with the leaders of the Soviet Union to conduct a really thorough discussion of our relations. Of course I regret not having the opportunity to participate in meetings and conversations at this time. To give you an example, despite the absence of any results from my meetings with Gromyko, I derived great satisfaction from my conversations with him. I felt that I was fulfilling some sort of commitment or obligation by sitting down to a serious discussion with the leaders of that great country, one of the greatest in the world, and I regret that I do not have the opportunity to pursue these talks today. I hope I will have a chance to engage in this activity in the future.

I do not believe issues such as the international conference or similar topics are matters of principle. An international conference is clearly a temporary interest of the Soviet Union because it wants to penetrate, through that corridor, deeper into the Middle East and gain the kind of influence that would serve its interests. We have our own interests and those of the region to worry about, not those of the Soviet Union or any other country. Still, there may be a conflict and why not actually? We are under no obligation to adopt their stance. Incidentally, this is what I explained to Gromyko when I told him: You must establish normal diplomatic relations with us and change your policy on Jewish emigration, but at the same time I am telling you that I object to an international conference not because you would participate in it but because I do not believe it would serve the cause of peace.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] You expressed regret at not having the chance to talk to the Soviets now. Would you like to meet with Gorbachev?

[Shamir] Certainly. Why not? I think any one of us who deals with political matters shares this aspiration.

[*'Al Hamishmar*] And in what way would you agree to include the Soviet Union, should it one day resume ties with Israel?

[Shamir] In the same way that I am prepared to talk and maintain a dialogue with any other country with which we do have diplomatic relations. We talk to the British, the French, the Italians—everyone. To the Soviets we say: As long as you do not have normal relations with us, you are no partners to a dialogue on the Middle East at all, because you are one-sided, you support only one party. The Americans currently enjoy an advantage in the Middle East game because they maintain good ties with Israel and most of the Arab countries alike. In this respect, the Soviet Union has a disadvantage. That is why, from the point of view of their own interests, they should correct the situation. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Rabin on West Bank Issues

TA222022 Tel Aviv Educational Television in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Rafi Reshef—live in studio]

[Excerpts] [Reshef] Today we have heard two main reports. On the one hand, the report about Nusaybah, who was beaten by students; on the other, the report about 'Amirav, who has aroused the ire of Herut members. I would like to learn from you whether, in your opinion, it is necessary to hold negotiations with the PLO after it meets some preconditions we present to it.

[Rabin] Today I am wearing two hats. One is of the defense minister of the current government, the national unity government, and as such I am in charge of running the territories—Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. As such I am also committed to implementing the government's policy, that of maintaining security in the territories, preventing terrorism, and, of course, seeing to everything that involves advancing the standard of living and quality of life of the Arab residents. The other hat is that of a political man, since I represent the Labor Party...

[Reshef, interrupting] I am concentrating on the second hat. We will come back to the first.

[Rabin] Now, with regard to the first issue, I am convinced that questions are arising among those who are supporters of Greater Eretz Yisra'el. These questions originate in the fact that there is a demographic problem that can no longer be ignored. The problem confronting the supporters of Greater Eretz Yisra'el, those who want political negotiations or who do not want political negotiations in reaching the imposition of sovereignty over the entire mandatory Eretz Yisra'el, is what to do with the Arab residents. After all, it is inconceivable that a Jewish state should follow a racist system, that is, the implementation of apartheid. Some of them have arrived at the transfer idea.

For example, I have heard it published that my deputy on behalf of Herut, Mr Deqel, made a certain proposal that would lead to a solution of the demographic problem in accordance with the views of the Likud and Herut

on a Greater Eretz Yisra'el. There are others who say that perhaps we will come to an understanding with the PLO, apparently recognizing it as a main element despite the fact that it is a terrorist organization that is working against us and that wants the establishment of an independent, separate Palestinian state, in the hope or delusion that it will agree to a sort of autonomy with Israeli sovereignty.

[Reshef] Mr Rabin, on this point are there any conditions whatsoever that, if met by the PLO, would mean that we should hold negotiations with its leaders?

[Rabin] Look, as a member of the Labor Party I think that a solution to the Palestinian problem must be worked out within the framework of peace with Jordan by the establishment of two states in the original mandatory Eretz Yisra'el, which also includes the East Bank. One of them would be a Jordanian-Palestinian state which could include in it territories west of the Jordan River and the other would be Israel. Those who support Greater Eretz Yisra'el, the mandatory Eretz Yisra'el, have a dilemma. I have no dilemma. Therefore, Palestinians must participate in these negotiations, Palestinians who are prepared to be incorporated with Jordan as one sovereign unit...

[Reshef, interrupting] Just to make this point clearer: Under no circumstances, even if the PLO stops terrorism, recognizes Israel, and recognizes UN Security Council Resolution 242, will we negotiate with them?

[Rabin] If the PLO or any other Palestinian comes along and says: I want peace with Israel, I am prepared to join in peace negotiations as part of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and with the aim of reaching peace between two countries, I see the solution to the Palestinian problem within the framework of a Jordanian-Palestinian state, I condemn terrorism—actually, anyone who says that is no longer a PLO man.

[Reshef] Yes. I would like to concentrate on your first statement, when you spoke about the demographic problem vis-a-vis the transfer idea, or the Labor Party and the Likud positions when it comes down to it. We have been living with this problem for 20 years. To what extent have these 20 years of military rule harmed and distorted our norms, the values of our society?

[Rabin] Look, my conscience is quiet and clear. After all, it was not we who imposed the 6-day war on Jordan, the war that led to our rule over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The Gaza Strip was Egypt. I am convinced that the main chance of reaching peace lies in our ability to prove to the Palestinians, the Jordanians, and the Arab world that they will gain nothing through terrorism; not through war, not through terrorism, but around the negotiating table.

[Reshef] Nevertheless, where does the time factor come into play?

[Rabin] It does pose difficulties. The alternatives facing us cannot be divided into very good and very bad. I think that under the current circumstances it is my duty as defense minister to guarantee, on the one hand, the prevention of terrorism originating in the territories and, on the other hand, to illustrate to the Palestinian inhabitants that it is possible to coexist even in an interim period. We are now in an interim period. It is no coincidence that all of Israel's governments have left the legal and political status of the territories open.

[Reshef] And they refrained from annexation. But can you try to guess at—we will not say predict—the future scenario, on the assumption that this interim period will last for another 20 years?

[Rabin] I am not prepared to predict. And everyone knows to whom was given the prediction of the destruction of the Second Temple. I think that if we prove that we can prevent terrorism, war will not deter us and we will be able to prevent it. A partner to negotiations will be found. We did not believe that Egypt would come, following the Yom Kippur War, the disengagement of forces agreement, and the interim agreement, but Egypt did take the path of negotiations.

[Reshef] You say a partner will be found, but in fact it seems to me that you too are being forced today to accept the fact that at least on the international conference issue it is difficult to imagine that there will be a breakthrough by November 1988.

[Rabin] Look, the delay is not coming from the partner. There are differences of opinion, and they are legitimate, in Israel. Therefore do not blame only the partner for preventing a search for a path to negotiations.

[Reshef] But do you believe that a minimum postponement of the initiative until November 1988 would mean torpedoing it?

[Rabin] No. I believe that the more time passes, the closer we are coming—perhaps with steps that are too slow—to making the Arab world aware that the only path to a solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict lies in negotiations; neither war nor terrorism will solve anything for them. They will always be beaten. [passage omitted]

[Reshef] Mr Rabin, if we try to sum up the year, it seems that you were in the center of events. I do not know if this was actually under cheerful circumstances, and we will not mention the Pollard affair and Irangate. Without again going into details, is there any conclusion from the year's series of events? Is something wrong with the government's functioning? Was everything by way of being force majeur? [preceding two words in French]

[Rabin] There is no point in going into details. I do not think—it depends, there are various issues—I do not think there have been major breakdowns. But in summing up, when I look at this past year, and the 3 years in which the government has been in existence and I have been serving as defense minister, I see three main things with satisfaction: First, a change in the security policy as

expressed in the end of the massive military involvement in Lebanon, without harming the mission of peace for the Galilee. Second, participation in the national effort to rescue the economy by decreasing the IDF. I think that, in the final analysis, the IDF will come out smaller, wiser, more adroit, and more modern. And third, we are at a new year, first and foremost, of adapting the security industries to the State of Israel and not to a world of unrealistic concepts taken from castles in the air.

[Reshef] Yes. Before we conclude, perhaps it would be worth asking again, on the eve of the New Year, about the safety of the missing in action, the prisoners of war. Are there any new reports?

[Rabin] We have three missing from the Al-Sultan Ya'qub battle in July 1982, soldier Samir Asad from 1983, two kidnapped by Hizballah in February 1986, and the navigator who is in Amal's hands. We only have definite, sure evidence that one of them is alive. All the others are considered alive as long as there is no proof to the contrary and this is how we regard them. We are making every effort in all directions. To our regret, we are confronted with enemies whose standard of humanity is known and they are prepared to use the fate of these soldiers in the gravest way. We are doing all we can to bring them back home. We will not spare any efforts to bring them back home.

HA'IR Reports Iranian Attempt To Buy Arms

TA231143 [Editorial Report] Tel Aviv *Ha'ir* in Hebrew on 23 September carries a 1,000-word report on page 17, by Hana Qim, entitled "The Iranian Colonel Disguised Himself as a French Businessman Who Had Come With an Argentinian Passport To Purchase Arms in Israel."

The article begins by stating that "on 17 May 1984 'Ali Ahmadi, a colonel in the Iranian Army," came to Israel disguised as a French businessman, "the owner of a company named Sparphanpeak Ltd in Montevideo, Uruguay." Contacting businessmen in Israel, he spoke of his desire to purchase 24 Phantoms and 250 M-48 tanks, all U.S.-made and undergoing renovations in Israel, on behalf of a "country whose name he was not prepared to mention. The deal was to be implemented via Paraguay" and "Jean-Pierre was in possession of signed documents confirming his right to open negotiations on behalf of the ministries in Paraguay in charge of purchasing the above-mentioned equipment plus the possibility of payment."

The article goes on to describe "Jean-Pierre's" meeting with Mordekhay Hod, "currently chairman of the Board of Directors of Israel Aircraft Industries and then the owner of a company advising the U.S. Aerospace Company." After various ups and downs, the deal was cut down to cover only two helicopters and was finally abandoned altogether because, as one of the people "involved" relates, "we got the impression that elements in Israel were trying to suspend and protract the negotiations. We also understood that they were trying to implement the deal through another element, that is, through one of the big dealers."

The article concludes by saying that Mordekhay Hod has consistently denied any knowledge of such a deal. "I have not dealt with trade in Phantoms, nor have I ever been involved in arms sales," although "it is true that I once gave advice on a deal for planes." "The deal really never went through." The article concludes by describing how the "French businessman" was discovered to be Iranian when he forgetfully opened his shirt, disclosing a medallion with a picture of Khomeyni.

A photocopy is published showing what purports to be a pro forma invoice for two helicopters, the seller being Air Associates, Inc, Skokie, Illinois, and the purchaser being Sparphanpeak Ltd, Montevideo, Uruguay.

Likud May 'Surprise' Labor With Election Call

TA231516 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 23 Sep 87 p 1

[Excerpt] The Likud may surprise the Labor Party with a proposal for early elections as soon as the winter Knesset session begins. This was noted by a senior Herut Movement source close to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in a conversation with a Western diplomat in Tel Aviv. The same source added that he believed the political climate was currently convenient for the Likud and that it would want to take advantage of it for the purpose of election propaganda. The Labor Party, on the other hand, is not at present interested in elections because of the demonstrations against it over the cancellation of the Lavi project and because of the disapproval of broad sections of the public over its willingness to concede parts of Eretz Yisra'el, as expressed in statements by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

In his declaration that as long as he was prime minister there would be no international conference, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir also hinted indirectly that he would prefer early elections to Israel's participation in such a conference. [passage omitted]

Nusaybah: PLO To Handle Future Talks With Herut

TA231033 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Dr Sari Nusaybah has said that if Herut member Moshe 'Amirav or any of his party colleagues wants to meet with him again on the future of the territories, he will direct them to the PLO headquarters in Tunis. Mr Nusaybah told our correspondent Steve Rodan that the talks with Moshe 'Amirav were stopped because at the last moment Moshe 'Amirav refused to meet with Yasir 'Arafat. Sari Nusaybah expressed disappointment over the halt to the talks with Moshe 'Amirav, but said this might encourage people in the Likud and the Alignment to talk with the PLO, because they now realize the PLO is not the devil.

On Meetings With Israelis

TA231331 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Dr Sari Nusaybah from Bi'r Zayt University, who was attacked because of his contacts with Moshe 'Amirav, a member of the Herut Central Committee, said today: I was disappointed with the Likud's reaction. The contacts broke down when 'Amirav refused to go to Geneva to meet with Yasir 'Arafat. At the same time, despite the fact that my lack of confidence in the Zionist establishment has increased, I have not lost hope, said Dr Sari Nusaybah.

[Begin Nusaybah recording—in English] I feel that, you know, I still have hope. One of the major hopes I have is that the way is now open and I think this is an important point. The way is now open, especially for the Labor Party, and even from within the Likud, for people who support the Likud, to talk to the Palestinians, to talk to the PLO, because it is obvious there is nothing, you know, you are not talking to the Devil. [end recording]

[Studio anchorman translates above and continues] Nusaybah was talking with the correspondent of the Voice of Israel's English Department, Steve Rodan.

Development of Likud-PLO Contacts Viewed

TA221504 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 22 Sep 87 p 6

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "A Dialogue With the Right"]

[Text] The contacts between the Likud and the PLO were more far-reaching than could be imagined and the latest disclosures about what went on behind the scenes in the last few months cast recent political developments in an entirely new light. Speaking on television last week, Moshe 'Amirav—a member of the Herut Central Committee who conducted the contacts with the PLO—disclosed that some joint Likud-PLO document had been drafted, but he did not elaborate any further. The drafting of a joint document by a Likud man and the PLO could not have taken place without the knowledge and tacit approval of the Likud's leader, Yitzhaq Shamir himself.

It speaks for itself that 'Amirav had been about to go to Geneva to confer with 'Arafat and hear from him the message that was ultimately delivered to Knesset Member [MK] Charlie Biton and peace activist David Ish-Shalom. Unlike the public meetings held by members of the left-wing delegations, the session between 'Amirav and 'Arafat was supposed to be secret. However, in "the following consultation" in which the prime minister was undoubtedly involved, it was decided that 'Amirav should not go to see 'Arafat.

It is now clear that the contacts with the PLO were not conducted solely by 'Amirav, but that more senior levels took part in them, in varying degrees of involvement: levels for whom the prime minister's door is always open—and it is hard to believe that they concealed such sensitive contacts from the prime minister, the reference being to MK's Dan Meridor and Ehud Olmert. I would not suggest that their dissociation from these contacts after they were publicized be taken too seriously. Both these MK's were invited to a convention in San Diego organized by members of the Carter administration to discuss the Palestinian problem and their invitation was canceled only through the pressure exerted by the Labor Party. Their willingness to attend a convention in which the PLO was also involved speaks for itself. In addition, there is the report that senior Likud figures conferred with members of the Palestinian lobby in the United States, most of whom are members of the PNC, the PLO's parliament.

What could the Likud men have agreed upon with the PLO? What do they have in common? First of all, the Likud was prepared to give the PLO that which the Labor Party cannot give without the Likud's approval: recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. Moshe 'Amirav made these amply clear in Metzudat Ze'ev [Likud headquarters in Tel Aviv]: granting the right of self-determination to the Palestinians east of the Jordan River along with the establishment of a broad autonomy (bordering on self-determination) west of the Jordan River. After the Likud recognized the principle of self-determination for the Palestinian people, the PLO would be able to reciprocate by recognizing Israel's right to exist within recognized and safe borders. Since a final agreement could not be reached at this stage, the PLO and the Likud could agree on interim arrangements.

There would be stages of negotiations: The first would lead to an interim arrangement, while the second would lead to the final arrangement. The first stage would be carried out by means of secret contacts in Romania or in Egypt; this would be followed 1 year later by contacts for the second stage where the possibility of international guarantees for the preservation of the arrangements and the nature of the final peace conference would be discussed. (Incidentally, this clause is in the spirit of the positions advocated by Yitzhaq Shamir, who in the past has stated that he would agree to a conference that would conclude the process of direct talks, contrary to Peres' conference which is supposed to accompany this process.) The interim stage would take 3 to 5 years.

A Palestinian entity, whose administrative capital would reside in the Arab sectors of Jerusalem, would be established in the territories held (not occupied) by Israel. The inhabitants of the territories would enjoy a degree of self-rule which would be determined in the first stage of the talks and which would take their legitimate rights over their natural resources and Israel's needs with regard to them into consideration. (This is the first compromise of its kind in the ongoing negotiations with Egypt ever since the Camp David accords were signed. Egypt has demanded that authority over water and land be given to the autonomy council, but Israel has refused.)

The self-rule would be established 1 year after the interim agreements were signed.

The Palestinian entity would have national symbols such as currency, a flag, a national anthem, and identity cards on condition these do not violate the conditions of the peace agreement with Israel. In the first stage of the contacts a comprehensive arrangement would also be reached on the question of the status of the settlements, the settlers, and the rehabilitation of those refugees who immigrate to the Palestinian entity in the territories. The agreement on the economy and the distribution of resources would be concluded at that same stage.

To create the atmosphere for such a peace initiative it was decided that "when the time comes" Israel would recognize the PLO as the legitimate (not the sole) representative of the Palestinians and that the PLO would recognize the State of Israel. The agreements would be reached in direct talks. For its part, Israel would freeze all the settlements in the first stage and would cease all acts of violence toward the Palestinian people and their property. The PLO, for its part, would stop all acts of violence and agitation against Israel, Israeli civilians, and Israeli property.

There is no need to exaggerate the value of such an understanding. Had it been attained, it definitely would have been considered a breakthrough. An analysis of Jordan's recent behavior shows it has been proceeding as if it knew about the existence of such an agreement and, as far as it is concerned, such an agreement does exist. Jordan should not dismiss the serious implications of an agreement between the Likud and the PLO and, in this respect, PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has dealt Jordan a blow below the belt. Among his numerous political achievements, Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i may count a change in the Likud's position vis-a-vis Jordan.

Herut has traditionally advocated anti-Jordanian positions, and to the extent that it was prepared to arrive at a compromise with the Palestinians, this evidently came at the expense of the Hashemites, the "foreign rulers," the "Bedouin from Hijaz." The Likud changed its positions in the wake of Jordanian-Israeli cooperation against the PLO. Likud leader Yitzhaq Shamir conducted a joint policy with the defense minister from the Labor Party, Yitzhaq Rabin—a policy which is obviously pro-Jordanian—and even made some pro-Jordanian statements. The No 1 enemy of the Hashemites, Ari'el Sharon, also changed his views and in a Likud rally in Ari'el called on King Husayn to enter negotiations because "there is something to talk about." Speaking in a symposium in Jerusalem under the slogan "Jordan Is Palestine," MK Eliahu Ben-Elisar admitted that he had changed his opinion about Jordan. Whereas in the past he was in favor of turning Jordan into a Palestinian state, he now was advocating the exact opposite. He called on King Husayn to declare himself "king of the Palestinians" so he could represent all the Palestinians instead of the PLO.

And now, another understanding has again turned the tables, and the foundation for an agreement between the Likud and the PLO comes at Jordan's expense. However, it should be pointed out that had such an agreement been finalized, it would have been reached by the Shamir-Arens camp—MK Ben-Elisar is part of the David Levi camp—and if the Likud realizes, as Jordan already does, that there is an understanding, a tough internal dispute can be expected to emerge in the Likud between those who advocate the Palestinian option and those who favor the Jordanian option.

Naturally, Jordan became nervous when it saw that 'Arafat, who so far had made futile attempts to resume the dialogue with King Husayn, was now proving that not only did the king have an Israeli option at the PLO's expense, but that he also had an Israeli option at Husayn's expense. The understanding between 'Arafat and the Likud is of a strategic rather than a tactical nature and it is very serious from Jordan's point of view. Jordan's nervousness also affected Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, who presumably was the one who ordered that Faysal al-Husayni, the Palestinian interlocutor of Moshe 'Amirav and David Ish-Shalom, again be put behind bars. Rabin had a special interest in encouraging Jordan lest it become disillusioned and stop its policy of cooperation with Israel against the PLO. That is why Rabin hastened to Nabulus to confer with local pro-Jordanian leaders such as 'Abd al-Rahim al-Sartawi, a confidant of Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i.

Jordan is expected to sustain another blow from the United States. Following Israel's pleas, a delegation from the State Department section dealing with aid to Third World countries arrived in the West Bank to ascertain whether U.S. aid to Jordan was being used properly. If the delegation's findings are negative, Jordan may lose the next aid allocation of $30 million. This entails more than just a financial loss. After all, if Secretary of State George Shultz loses his confidence in the Jordanian 5-year plans this might also affect Washington's assessment about "the war against the PLO" as a whole and if the Likud can reach an agreement with the PLO why should the United States not be able to do the same, particularly during this period of detente with the Soviet Union?

At the same time it should be pointed out that there are indeed signs to this effect, such as Shultz' positive attitude toward the PLO on the question of its office in Washington. However, influential circles in the State Department will go to great lengths to convince Husayn to adhere to his present policy rather than bring Yasir 'Arafat back to Amman. The reason for this is that the Americans have grounds to believe that behind the contacts between the Likud and the PLO is the Soviet Union itself, an ally of Romania which, officially, took this mediation upon itself. The truth must be told: Not only does Jordan treat the understanding between the Likud and the PLO as if it were a fact, but the Eastern bloc does also.

The significance of the gestures toward Israel, such as the release of the prisoners of Zion or the opening of the Hungarian interests office, can be better explained against this background. The release of the prisoners of Zion can certainly be explained also by the need to create a forthcoming atmosphere in the talks between the United States and the Soviet Union. However, attention should be paid to the fact that the opening of the Hungarian interests office was postponed by 1 week because the Soviets wanted to wait and see how Israel would deal with the leftists who embraced 'Arafat in Geneva and for the most part the Soviet Union was pleased. Not only were legal measures not taken this time, but MK Charlie Biton was even allowed to relay 'Arafat's message to government officials. This was a success scored by Romanian diplomacy, which managed to receive a promise to this effect from Shamir. Most probably the Soviets are also in on the understanding between the Likud and 'Arafat.

Did Shamir endorse the move with the PLO? Probably so, but his concepts should be assessed properly. Although the Likud is basically anti-Jordanian and its pro-Jordanian attitudes are relatively new, Shamir has continued to support a pro-Jordanian policy despite his disappointment that Husayn cannot give him an audience, as he has given to Labor Party leaders, because of Egypt's categorical opposition to such a meeting. When Shamir discussed the Palestinian option with Ceausescu he assumed that Jordan would get wind of these discussions, as indeed it did. At this point Shamir wants to have leverage for pressuring Jordan more than he wants to enter a real dialogue with 'Arafat.

While there are no doubts about the sincere intentions of the Shamir- Arens bloc regarding the Palestinian option, Shamir is limited by the fact that elections are near and that his main enemy is Tehiya. The opening of overt contacts with the PLO during an election year might end in a defeat at the ballot boxes. Shamir is also fearful of the horrible choice the Soviet Union might face Israel with: territories or immigrants. In Romania Shamir undoubtedly examined the chances of immigration in exchange for a satisfactory agreement with the PLO, which could be presented to the Israeli public and preclude the necessity of tackling such a difficult dilemma. Surprisingly enough, the PLO was ready to make a fair deal.

'Arafat is also limited in his ability to pursue the Israeli option, and not just by the radical organizations which could be neutralized by the Soviet Union but also by people within his own camp. It is no secret that the PLO leadership is split and that it has been a long time since his two main aides, Abu Jihad and Abu Iyad, have been seen with him. The mutual killings within the PLO in Lebanon do not bode well. In addition, those who favor an alliance with Jordan, such as the brothers Khalid and Hani al-Hasan, are opposed to an alliance with Israel and will presumably consult with Husayn so as to break the understanding with the Likud.

The question is: Why is the United States interested in such an understanding? After all, it basically runs counter to the international conference in which the Soviets have so far been very interested. The answer does not bode well for Shim'on Peres, who will be leaving for Washington to resume his efforts regarding an international conference. The Soviets have apparently despaired of convening a conference during Reagan's tenure and are waiting for the next U.S. Administration. In the meantime they are preparing for the legitimization of the PLO. They also know that if they were to pressure Shamir to accept the PLO openly at the moment, after the elections they would get a government with Moshe Levinger and Ari'el Sharon.

Hence, the current contacts will bear fruit only after the elections in the United States and Israel. The political breakthrough will be made with those who dare—and, at the moment, that is the Likud.

Poll Shows Majority Against PLO Talks

TA231224 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 23 Sep 87 p 1

[Text] A large majority (61 percent) is opposed to talks with the PLO, even if the PLO were to accept the terms contained in the "Shmentov-Yariv version" (recognition of Israel, acceptance of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and a stop to terrorist actions). This is what emerges from a public opinion poll conducted between 17 and 20 September for the *Yedi'ot Aharonot* editorial board. The poll covered 620 people who were interviewed personally as a representative sample.

What also emerges from this poll is that the majority of the population regards the cancellation of the Lavi project as the most important event of the past year. This majority is almost equally divided, however, between those who regard the cancellation as positive and those who see it as negative.

Question: Are you for or against conducting talks with the PLO on the conditions that this organization recognizes Israel, accepts Resolutions 242 and 338, and stops terrorist actions?

For: 37 percent.

Against: 61 percent

Note: In answer to the question of whether or not, in these conditions, the PLO should be incorporated into an international conference, similar results were also obtained.

Another question was aimed at classifying into positive and negative the events of the past year. The classification is below:

Positive: The cancellation of the Lavi; the halting of inflation; the conclusion of the last remains of the Lebanon war; the promotion of the international conference idea.

Negative: The Lavi cancellation; polarization between religious and secular; traffic accidents; the Pollard affair; the closure of factories; the rotation.

It is worth noting that the percentage of abstentions was particularly high in connection with noting the positive events.

AL-FAJR on International Conference 'Talk'

TA231217 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 20 Sep 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The International Conference Once Again"]

[Text] Talk about the proposed international conference for resolving the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict in general has resurfaced in the wake of recent remarks by Israeli Alignment sources about new contacts between Soviet and Israeli diplomats, in which a Soviet draft plan for this conference was worked out but was eventually turned down by Israeli diplomats.

According to an Israel Radio report the day before yesterday, these contacts are apparently based on the secret meeting between Yevgeniy Antipov, the head of the Soviet consular delegation, and the Israeli Foreign Ministry political director general, Yosi Beilin.

Many Soviet-Israeli meetings have been held recently, but this particular meeting constitutes "a new step," at least by the Soviet side. Basically the Soviet consular delegation in Tel Aviv did not come to Israel only to administer mere technical affairs and to survey ancient Russian real estate and property. This "political" meeting goes beyond the declarations about the Soviet delegation's administrative and technical mission in Israel. Will this have a practical or effective impact on the concept of the international conference? Or is Shim'on Peres, leader of the Israeli Labor Party, trying through his ministry's political director to confront the Israeli Herut Movement, which has been attracting the attention of Israeli and world news media with its recent leaks about contacts between Moshe 'Amirav, a member of its Central Committee, and Palestinian figures in the occupied land? These meetings are taking place within the framework of what has been called a "memorandum on political positions" and amid a climate closer to a fierce early election campaign between these two large Israeli parties than to anything else, including a dispute over the international conference.

At any rate, the Israeli Labor Party announced a few days ago, through its official spokeswoman, that it was abandoning the idea of the international conference as a means to advance Israeli elections and that it would consequently not raise this issue in its election campaign.

Has Shim'on Peres now reneged on this decision? Or are Israeli rifts permissible as long as they serve a single goal—that of maintaining the present Israeli coalition until November 1988, while we remain on the "waiting list" of Israeli issues put on hold until that specified date or even beyond it?

Diplomatic Relations With Libya Restored

JN231730 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn this evening chaired part of a Cabinet meeting devoted to discussing the necessary preparations for the emergency Arab summit conference scheduled to be held in Amman on 8 November. His majesty gave general instructions to the ministers. He explained the importance and dimensions of convening this summit at this particular time when the Arab nation is facing several tests and difficulties and when all Arab peoples are looking forward to preserving the Arab entity and restoring Arab solidarity within the framework of a united Arab concept and efforts to entrench the basis of joint Arab action.

In accordance with his majesty's instructions and based on Jordan's firm commitment to the Arab nation's supreme interests, its sincere adherence to the pan-Arab principles on which Jordan was established and for which our fathers and forefathers and our strugglers and martyrs sacrificed, and because of Jordan's eagerness to pave all avenues for the desired new Arab breakthrough, the Jordanian Government has decided to restore diplomatic relations with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The Cabinet meeting was attended by the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court and the court minister.

King Husayn Returns From UK, Switzerland

JN221557 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn returned home this evening following a 2-week visit to Switzerland and the United Kingdom. His majesty was received at Amman airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the House of Representatives speaker, the acting Senate president, the court minister, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, ministers, the chief of the royal household, the Royal Hashemite Court secretary general, and senior civilian and military officials. Also welcoming his majesty were the British and Swiss charges d'affaires. Returning with his maejsty were His Highness Prince Muhammad, his majesty's personal representative; and Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court.

King Husayn To Visit Gulf, Syria, Iraq

JN241016 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0950 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Sep (WAKH)—Press reports said here today that King Husayn of Jordan will make a tour of the Gulf region at the beginning of next week. The tour will aim at preparing for the emergency Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman on 8 November. Kuwait *Al-Qabas* quoted reliable sources in Amman as saying that King Husayn's tour, which will begin in the Sultanate of Oman, will include all the Arab countries. The paper added that the Jordanian monarch will later visit both Iraq and Syria. He will also send a number of envoys to the Arab Maghreb states, including Libya with which Jordan restored diplomatic relations yesterday after more than 3 years of estrangement.

The paper noted that Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i will visit Damascus soon to discuss subsequent developments pertaining to the convocation of the emergency Arab summit in Amman. It is to be noted that the Ministerial Council of the Arab League decided, at the conclusion of its meetings in Tunis at the beginning of last week, to convene an emergency Arab summit in Amman on 8 November. The decision to convene the summit is aimed at discussing the situation in the Gulf in light of Iran's insistence on continuing its war with Iraq and its refusal to respond to Security Council Resolution 598 that calls for an immediate end to the fighting.

Leaves on 'Working Visit' to Syria

JN241116 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn left Amman today for Damascus on a working visit to Syria during which he will meet with President Hafiz al-Asad within the framework of consultation and coordination between the two great leaders to achieve a unfied Arab stand on issues of concern to the Arab nation and to confront the dangers threatening this nation.

His majesty and the accompaying delegation were seen off at Amman airport by His Highness Prince Muhammad, personal representative of his majesty the king; His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, chief chamberlain; Staff Field Marshal Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; the chief of the royal household; the secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court; a number of senior officials; and the Syrian ambassador in Amman. His majesty is accompanied on this visit by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah.

Prince Hasan Leaves for UN Assembly Session

JN231537 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Amman—His Royal Highness Prince Hasan, the crown prince, left Amman for New York this morning to deliver Jordan's speech at the meetings of the UN General Assembly's current session. The crown prince will also meet with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. Present at the sendoff were the court minister, the acting foreign minister, the higher education minister, the chief qadi, the chief of the Royal Household, the secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court, the Amman governor, a number of senior military and civilian officials, and the appointed U.S. ambassador to the Royal Hashemite Court.

Moroccan Foreign Minister Arrives With Message

JN221559 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Amman—Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali arrived in Amman this afternoon on a visit to Jordan, during which he will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from his brother His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco. He was welcomed at Queen 'Alia International Airport by Marwan Dudin, acting foreign minister; Nabih al-Nimr, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and the Moroccan ambassador in Amman.

Received by King Husayn

JN221804 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at Al-Nadwah Palace this evening Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali, who conveyed a message to his majesty the king from his brother, His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco. In the message, the Moroccan king expressed support for His Majesty King Husayn's efforts to achieve Arab solidarity and convene an Arab summit in Amman. During the meeting talks centered on the need to build an effective Arab-Islamic stand to support current efforts to end the destructive Iraq-Iran war. In this regard the Jordanian and Moroccan sides were identical and stressed the need to exert every possible effort to render the joint Arab action successful and to adopt a unified position to confront all challenges and dangers facing the Arab nation. Talks also touched on joint cooordination and bilateral relations.

The meeting was attended by Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Army Chief of Staff Marshal al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, and Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Marwan Dudin. It was also attended by the Moroccan ambassador in Amman.

Dudin Reiterates Support for Resolution No 598

JN211919 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Sep 87

[Text] Amman—Marwan Dudin, occupied territories affairs minister and acting foreign minister, has reiterated Jordan's support for UN Security Council Resolution No 598 as the basis for terminating the Iraq-Iran war. Following Japanese Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari's departure from Amman today, Marwan Dudin told the press that the problem is not one of navigation and the presence of fleets in the Arab Gulf, which have come as a result of the war. He added: The problem lies in the armed conflict that is raging between Iraq and Iran, a conflict in which Iran launched the aggression against Iraq. Dudin added: The time has come to settle this conflict. He affirmed that international legitimacy, represented in UN Security Resolution No 598, is the basis for doing so. He said this resolution is sufficient for negotiations between the two parties to settle the problem.

Dudin said he hopes Japan will pursue its efforts to seek a solution to the Gulf war and to make the two parties to the conflict sit down at the negotiating table.

UN Envoy Calls Reagan Speech 'Comprehensive'

JN231553 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Sep pp 1, 23

[By Carrie Moye]

[Text] United Nations-New York—Abdallah Salah, Jordanian representative to the United Nations, has described U.S. President Ronald Reagan's speech to the UN General Assembly as sharp, clear, and comprehensive and said its references to the Iraq-Iran war deserve to be appreciated. But the speech, he said, failed to point directly to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In an exclusive interview with the *Jerusalem Star* and *Al-Dustur* correspondent, Salah said that the major powers can tackle the big issues if they want to. UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which calls for an immediate cease-fire in the Iraq-Iran war, is an example., He also said that he wishes that these states would do the same thing concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict.

With regard to Reagan's reference to the UN resolution that equates Zionism and racism, Salah said: I think that this reference was inserted in the speech to please some voters. He added: It is inconceivable that there should be no reference in Reagan's speech to the major issue—namely the future of the Palestinian people. Otherwise, what about a just resolution of their cause?

With regard to Reagan's saying that the UN Security Council has no choice but to adopt measures to support Resolution No 598 unless Iran adheres to it, Salah said: "The United States should adhere to the UN Security Council's obligations and move to the second phase of Resolution No 598, which provides for imposing sanctions on the side that does not adhere to it."

Salah believes that the improvement in U.S.-Soviet relations is a good sign since it "will lead the world to a better phase."

In general, Salah expressed his satisfaction with the U.S. President's speech and said: "Reagan's speech expressed hope, freedom, and human rights." The speech called for a world in which peace prevails and which showed trust in the United Nations and called for firm support for the United Nations in view of its great importance, Salah added.

AL-RA'Y Views U.S. Action Against Iran

JN230915 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 23 Sep 87 p 26

[Article by the political editor: "Despite the Attack, the Crisis Will Remain Localized"]

[Text] An Arab aircraft not an American one should have attacked the Iranian mine-laying ship and Arab warships should have seized its crew to bring them to

trial for the crime of interfering with international shipping and committing acts of terrorism. There is no state of war between the Arab Gulf and Iran justifying these crimes. But the Arabs have chosen to rely on international protection. They are powerless and can do nothing but depend on God!

Planting sea mines in the Arabian Gulf is a vile, desperate, and foolish act. Iran needs the Gulf more than any other country in the world. Iraq has not been using its Gulf ports for the past 7 years now, Saudi Arabia and Oman have ports on other seas, and the UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, and Kuwait can, at some cost, carry out their import-export trade via other available outlets. Iran alone imports 77 percent of the foodstuffs for its people and all its arms and ammunitions and exports all of its oil and peanuts through its Gulf ports. Yet it is torpedoing its only contact with the outside world and attacking non-American tankers even if they are carrying Iranian oil and imports.

The attack on the Iranian mine-laying ship and the seizure of its crew is a clear indication that the Americans are not merely flexing their muscles in the Arabian Gulf. It is also certain that following the attack on their tanker the British will send their warships beyond Bahrain to defend their tankers. The Tehran mullahs may use this incident to deliver fiery speeches and make further threats, but they are definitely incapable of a military confrontation in the Gulf waters. They might find it easier to attack the Arabs on land. Thus, the United States will attack Iranian warships and possibly even certain Iranian ports and Tehran will attack the Arabs to take revenge on the Arch Satan!

The Arabian Gulf crisis will remain localized. It will not develop into an international crisis. The Iranians are running their battles through speeches and internal one-upmanship and their relations with the major powers are suspect. On the other hand, the Arabs, who are the aggrieved party, are divided between those who cannot precipitate an international crisis and those who can but do not want to do so. Precipitating an international crisis and managing a conflict on an international level requires special capabilities that could only be found in a great strategist like Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir who managed the great crisis over the Suez Canal issue and succeeded through his own calculations in defeating two major powers, Britain and France, and cutting the Israelis down to their real size as watchdogs of imperialism in the fall of 1956 and early 1957. Mohammad Mosaddeq was another strategist who successfully managed the international oil crisis at the highest levels of strategic calculations until he was let down by Ayatollah Kashani at home and Kermit Roosevelt abroad.

Despite all the hullabaloo, the Gulf crisis will remain a localized one. It will never rise to the level of an international crisis. This is because the mullahs are managing the battle in a desperate and almost suicidal manner.

Lawyers on Attempts To Form West Bank Union

JN231247 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
23 Sep 87 pp 1, 23

[Text] Amman—A statement issued by the Lawyers Union has denounced the Zionist occupation authorities' attempts to form a union for Arab lawyers in Jerusalem. The statement hails the steadfastness of our kinfolk in the occupied territory and their rejection of repressive enemy measures. It also renews support and assistance for the striking lawyers. The following is the text of the statement:

In its session on 21 September 1987, the Council of the Lawyers Union reviewed reports about the intention of a handful of individuals who are acting contrary to the will of their nation, to form a lawyers' union in the occupied West Bank with the support of the occupation authorities. The Council affirms the following:

1. What these people are trying to do is a direct violation of the rules of international law, which does not allow occupation authorities to undermine legal institutions that were established before the occupation.

2. What these people intend to do is a violation of the lawyers' will in the East and West Banks. This has been affirmed by the lawyers' general committee represented by its decision to boycott the occupation courts.

3. The steadfastness of the lawyers in the West Bank since 1967 and their strike is an example to be followed in confronting occupation and exposing its attempts to give legality to its measures.

4. The Lawyers Union based in Amman represents lawyers in the East and West Banks. The attempt to establish an alternative union is an encroachment on legality and a blow to national unity, which is defended by all lawyers.

Therefore, the Lawyers Union warns anyone who contemplates violating legitimacy and the national current, which the lawyers and their union has adopted, and says that it will expose these flagrant attempts to the Arab masses and all Arab institutions and sides and international forums. Moreover, the Union will take the severest measures against anyone who participates in these attempts. These measures will include referring him to the competent courts and depriving him of his Union rights.

While the Lawyers Union praises the steadfastness of our kinfolk in the occupied territory and their rejection of the repressive measures by the occupation authorities, it renews its support for them and for the steadfast striking lawyers and pledges to exert ceaseless efforts to further strengthen and back their steadfastness and strike by all means.

Paper on Contacts To Release All Hostages

JN241439 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 21 Sep 87 p 23

[Text] A well-informed source in West Beirut expects that the hostage issue will witness further progress in the very near future, probably at the end of this month, in the wake of the success of efforts exerted to free U.S. journalist Charles Glass and German hostage Alfred Schmidt.

In addition to the expected release of the second German hostage, Rudolf Cordes, the source noted that contacts held to achieve the release of Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite has made progress. Something new related to his release may appear this month following the failure to carry out a deal for this in which the kidnappers were to receive $5 million in exchange for his release.

The same source expects that the ongoing contacts, which are shrouded with secrecy, seek to conclude a package deal with the kidnappers that will include all hostages, particularly the U.S. and French citizens. The source added that the package deal is one of the topics being discussed on the regional and international levels, in addition to developments in the Gulf war and the so-called tankers war.

The same source, however, affirmed that concluding the deal for the hostages will not be a separate issue because this depends on what will be achieved at the level of other issues. UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's tour of Iran and Iraq proved that the other issues are also moving toward a solution.

Mossad Said Involved in Yunis Arrest

PM240943 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 25 Sep 87 p 8

[Unattributed report: "Fawwaz Yunis Was Handed Over to United States by Mossad"]

[Text] Many secrets and puzzles that the United States refuses to unravel lie behind the U.S. abduction of Lebanese national Fawwaz Yunis, who is accused of hijacking a Jordanian airliner on 11 June 1985.

The United States' story is that Fawwaz Yunis was lured to a party aboard a yacht by the promise of a drug shipment and that he was arrested upon boarding the yacht, which, the story claims, was full of men and women, all of them FBI agents. He was then moved to the aircraft carrier *Saratoga* and from there flown to Washington to stand trial.

This story is very similar to the story of the kidnapping of Mordechai Vanunu, who exposed Israel's nuclear secrets, the truth of which is still unknown to this day. The same scenario was then applied to the Yunis kidnapping. Is it conceivable that a man who knew full well that the Israeli and U.S. intelligence services were hunting him would accept an invitation from people he did not know to a party aboard a yacht anchored just outside Cyprus' territorial waters?

According to Cypriot sources close to security circles on the island, men from Mossad drugged Fawwaz Yunis and moved him to the yacht, which in turn handed him over to the aircraft carrier. The aircraft that flew him stopped at a U.S. base in Europe for refueling.

Those who attended Fawwaz's court hearings say that he looked dazed, as if he was drugged. The U.S. lawyer appointed by the court to defend him is basing his case on the grounds that Fawwaz was brought to U.S. territory illegally.

Gunmen Kill Sidon Jesuit University Head

NC240836 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Gunmen in Sidon this morning shot Father Andre Mass, 53, director of the Jesuit University branch in southern Lebanon. He was killed instantly. His body was then taken to Hammud Hospital. No party has yet claimed responsibility for the assassination.

Paqraduni Appeals for Arab Solution

NC240953 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces, at the conclusion of his visit to France yesterday stressed that the Lebanese Forces refuse to cut short the tenure of the Republic's president or to strip him of his political role through early elections. He asserted that the Lebanese Forces will thwart any Syrian nominee for president. The Lebanese Forces, he stated, consider the presidential elections a stepping-stone to a solution rather than a means to entrench the occupation.

Paqraduni said that foreign occupation is the main cause for the continuing war in Lebanon, especially Syria's occupation of well over 65 percent of Lebanese territory. He noted that all these occupation forces are fighting each other and settling scores in Lebanon. He added that even more perilous than the occupations and their contradictions is the fact that each occupier has a plan that is not suitable for Lebanon and that harbors failed ambitions.

Paqraduni stressed that the Lebanese Forces believe they have a legitimate right to resist these occupations until complete liberation is achieved. He additionally stressed that liberating the homeland is the essential condition for unification, particularly since the Syrian occupation is working to destroy the formula for common coexistence, fabricate internal divisions, dismantle state establishments, and impoverish the Lebanese people. He appealed to Arab and friendly countries to find an Arab-international solution to the Lebanese crisis within the framework fo the Arab League and the United Nations.

Amal Delegation on Friendly USSR Relations

NC231758 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has received an Amal Movement Political Bureau delegation comprising Dr Muhammad Baydun, chairman of the council for the south; Dr Ayyub Humayyid, director general of the Information Ministry; Shaykh Hasan al-Masri; and the lawyer Haytham Jum'ah.

Following the meeting, Dr Baydun stated: We reviewed the general situation and living conditions. We affirmed to Prime Minister al-Huss that the Amal Movement is prepared to implement whatever agreement is reached to end the camps war. We also briefed the prime minister on the Movement's stand regarding Minister Nabih Birri's initiative to end the camps war and in the areas around them. We additionally touched on ways of resolving problems relating to projects of the Development and Reconstruction Council.

The members of the delegation then visited the Soviet Embassy in Beirut and met with Ambassador Vasiliy Kolotusha, the minister plenipotentiary at the embassy, and the embassy secretary. They discussed the regional and Lebanese situations, with emphasis on Israel's occupation of south Lebanon, Israel's continued arbitrary practices there, its eviction of the population, and its refusal to implement UN Security Council resolutions.

The delegation emphasized that liberating the south is the key to solving the Lebanese crisis and restoring the nation's unity, sovereignty, and well-being. There was additionally an in-depth discussion of Lebanese-Palestinian relations and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri's initiative to resolve the problems and end the so-called camps war.

The members of the delegation stressed that the Amal Movement is committed to implementing the initiative and to exerting every possible effort in this regard. They also declared that the Palestinians must withdraw from areas east of Sidon. There was additionally emphasis on the amicable relations between the Amal Movement and the friendly Soviet Union, which supports Arab causes, and on the need to promote these relations in a manner serving the causes and principles both parties are working for.

Israeli Reconnaissance Flights Noted

NC240829 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Israeli warplanes flying reconnaissance missions over Lebanon broke the sound barrier at 1057 today.

India

Spokesman Condemns LTTE Attack on Tamils

BK231315 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Excerpt] India has expressed deep shock and condemned yesterday's attack by the LTTE cadres on a group of PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam] supporters in the northern district of Vavuniya [in Sri Lanka]. Briefing newsmen, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that while mounting the attack, about 90 LTTE cadres used small arms, grenades, and mortars. He said the tragic and deliberate killing of the fellow Tamils by LTTE is directly contrary to its professions of commitment to the principles of Gandhian nonviolence. It further establishes the fact that statements by the LTTE leaders that they have laid down all arms in accordance with the provisions of the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement are at variance with facts. [passage omitted]

15 Arrested Near Golden Temple Released

BK231615 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] In Punjab, two more terrorists were killed in separate encounters in Ferozepore District last night. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh today that one encounter took place near village Maluwania and the other at Butiwal. Some arms and ammunition, including a Chinese-made assault rifle, were recovered from them.

Meanwhile, all the 15 persons picked up by the police and paramilitary forces during the search of some buildings adjacent to the Golden Temple in Amritsar last night have since been released.

Iran

Khamene'i Visit to United Nations Continues

Speech at UN General Assembly

LD221803 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1450 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Speech by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i at the UN General Assembly in New York—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O God, I start in Your name and beg Your guidance and assistance. My life and death and my supplications and prayers belong to You. Put words of clarity, effectiveness, and truth into my mouth and make the truth reach the hundreds of millions of ears and hearts which are, at this moment, anxiously seeking it, and who hundreds of times more will be seeking it in the future. O Lord, grateful greetings from me and my nation to the souls of the great prophets, especially Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad. May God's benedictions be upon all of them, who at the price of their lives and with all their might spread the message of man's salvation and awareness throughout the world and made it eternal. My respectful greetings to the pure and clear hearts who listened to that message, especially to those who sacrificed their lives for it.

Mr President, Mr Secretary General, honorable members, I am the president of a country which was the cradle of civilization and the center of human culture during one of the longest and most critical periods of history. It is a country that has now reached the stage of an order which has built upon that firm foundation and which relies on its peerless cultural heritage, enriched as a result of the blessing of Islamic awakening. I come from Iran, which has been the birthplace of the most acclaimed and, at the same time, the least known revolution of the contemporary period—a revolution based upon the religion of God and in continuation of the path of God's messengers and great divine teachers, a path as old as all of man's history. The firm root and the underlying foundation of this revolution is Islam's monotheistic world view. The definition of man, the definition of history, the analysis of present, past, and future events, the definition of nature, the identification of all the bonds which connect man with the outside world, with the world, with other human beings, with objects, and man's understanding and appreciation of his own reality, in brief, all those things which form the values of a society and which enables it to administer itself in a desired manner—all of these are based upon this divine world view and are derived from it.

In the divine ideology of Islam, all that exists has been created by God, reflects His knowledge and power, and seeks to reach God. And man is the highest level of creation and His viceroy. Man can, by exploiting treasures of talent within himself, build himself and the world, which has been created for him, in the most beautiful way and adorn it accordingly. Man can attain the highest level of material and spiritual elevation by flying with two wings—one of faith and the other of science and knowledge. Man can, by weakening or abusing these talents, create an inferno of injustice and corruption. The guiding light for man is his faith in God and his submission to divine biddings and forbiddings. One plants for eternity in the world; death is not the end of life but the gateway to eternity and the beginning of a new life.

In the divine ideology of Islam, members of the human race are brothers and sisters and all are slaves of God. There is no distinction between races, colors, peoples of various lands—these cannot be the reason for the superiority of any person or any nation. Humanity is one, and aggression against one human being is aggression against all humanity without the intervention of geographic and racial characteristics. Seeking supremacy and monopolies has pitched brother against brother; and the blood which has thus been shed has never stopped. The blows that follow blows and provocations have triggered streams of blood. Seas of blood have been created between those who seek supremacy and those who fall victim to them. Tranquillity has been ousted from mankind.

The prophets invited the people to submit to God, who acts as a restraint to those seeking supremacy and selfishness. They presented to mankind a faith which gave them the paradise of sincerity and tranquillity even before the paradise of eternity. The prophets encouraged the human race to bring the yearning for supremacy and avarice under control. They warned mankind against wasting its talents and drowning in a whirlpool of moral corruption. They opened up to mankind the spring of knowledge, righteousness, love, labor, innovation, science, and awareness. They inspired recollection of God and love for Him—which are guarantors for all that and which elevate spirituality. They also taught the human race to strengthen its arm to safeguard these values and to close the road to the satans of mischief, corruption, and deterioration; to struggle against ignorance and tyrany and enslavement; and to safeguard science, justice, and freedom. They taught the human race that it must neither initiate injustice nor accept injustice, that the human race must rise to implement justice and retribution. The human race must not offer safety to those who violate human dignity and human salvation. Surrender to the enemies of virtue, justice, and dignity means accepting the disappearance of these values; it accepts tyranny, corruption, and immorality.

In the divine ideology of Islam, God's religion is a framework for the life of mankind and not just a jewel in its crown. Religion offers a social structure to mankind, instead of just teaching mankind a series of routine worship rituals, even though the worship rituals are full of soul for living within the same structure; this social structure is based on a world view and is formed in this shape. [sentence as heard] Freedom, the equality of people, social justice, the self-awareness of society, the struggle against dishonesty and indecency, the preference to the aspirations of mankind instead of personal desires, the attention paid to divine instructions, the negating of satanic domination, and the other social principles of the Islamic system, as well as personal morality and behavior and political and professional piety, are all inspired by the same world view and general understanding of the world and of mankind. Islam rejects those systems which rely on force and bullying and those which give birth to tyranny, ignorance, suppression, oppression, the humiliation of mankind, and racism among people on the basis of their nationality, blood, and language. It will strongly challenge any system and teaching that decides to confront the Islamic system.

In addition, Islam orders its followers to be cooperative with and kind to all human beings, those who are Muslims and those who are not.

It is on such foundations and with these objectives that the Islamic revolution appeared in Iran and established the system of the Islamic Republic. Many people have sought to find the root cause of the Islamic revolution of 11 February 1979. However, many of them have misunderstood. We believe that this grave mistake stems from shortcomings in the existing systems of the world and the fact that many of their slogans on freedom, democracy, and equality have turned out to be false. Amidst this frightening darkness, Islam has managed to shine, despite the layers of mystery, superstition, and distortion which have been attributed to it in the course of several centuries. This shiny glimmering turned into a bright light in Iran and then became a storm. We still await incidents in many other regions of the world.

The Muslim awakening movement in many Islamic states, contrary to what is imagined and publicized, is not a child of the Islamic revolution of Iran; rather, it is its brother. Iran is located in one of the most strategic regions of the world, with a unique history, a scientific and cultural heritage and resources. The Islamic revolution of Iran rose against a regime which had placed all these resources at the disposal of dominating world powers and their interests, especially during the previous 25 years when everything was placed at the service of the U.S. regime. No one was more in need of these material and spiritual resources than the nation of Iran itself. However, the nation was deprived of all these resources. Their bombastic claims were lies and deception, evern though Western propaganda media, particularly the Zionist networks, used to glorify these claims.

The Islamic revolution emerged against such a regime and aspired to great and unyielding objectives. Almost 9 years have passed, yet there still remains a great number of problems concerning us, our revolution, our principles, and our viewpoints. Too much has been said in ignorance or in a biased manner, more than may seem normal. There are several aspects that are unique to our revolution which can be considered as exceptions to the usual fate of revolutions. I shall discuss these points and, in conclusion, I will deliver our message.

First, from the very beginning, this revolution was 100 percent popular. Neither an armed guerrilla group, nor an active political-military party, nor a group of revolutionary and freedom-seeking military officers, nor any other ordinary group which usually brings about revolutionary changes in various countries was present, active, or existing in our revolution. It was the people, only the people—without any weapons whatsoever—who in Tehran and in other places filled the atmosphere with their revolutionary existence, presence, and slogans to such an extent that they left no room for the ruling group or its government. They were forced, one by one and collectively, to leave their palaces, the centers of their power, and subsequently the country. The shah, the prime minister, senior Army officers, cabinet ministers, and other ringleaders—any one of them who could—fled from people. For 1 year they utilized all their capabilities—political, military, security—in an effort to disperse the people and return them to their homes or to their places of work. During this period, thousands of people were killed in front of others in the street, in the mosque, in the university, in the workplace. However, the presence of the people increased daily. During the last months, the violence of the establishment increased and, consequently, the presence of the people also increased.

Having lost the power to resist the pressure of the people who were placing their lives on the line, the regime was forced to yield its biggest concession—the shah left. Afterwards, its retreats came in quick succession. The great leader of the revolution—whose every word gave each member of the nation morale, awareness, and lessons—relied on Almighty God, in Whose hand rests all the power, and with confidence in that great and unwaivering will of the people, established the government of the revolution. The government of monarchical tyranny automatically and without any alternative left the seat of power and fled. The last trenches were garrisons empty of soldiers and officers; they too had fled. Many of them joined the ranks of the people. During the last moments, several garrisons put up some resistance, but to no avail. The people were present there, too. The miracle of this revolution was the victory of the people. It was only after the collapse of the garrisons that the people acquired arms. However, on that day the monarchy fell. These weapons were used to safeguard the tender shoots of the revolution. The people, young and old, women and men, were the only ones who broke the Pahlavi regime which appeared to be strong and fully armed, enjoying the support of the greatest powers. The people established the regime of the Islamic Republic. Their weapons were their faith, their will, and their blood; and blood triumphed over the sword. The policy of the victory of blood over the sword is the same as the policy of dogged resistance. Before the victory of the revolution, our leader had already announced it. Its first miracle was its victory over the shah's regime, which was fully armed.

It was a regime which enjoyed the full support of the United States and the West. After that the revolution achieved more victories, some of which were greater than defeating the shah's regime. This was a unique experience, at least in this century, and it is worthy of careful analysis and understanding both by the dominated countries and the global, dominating powers.

Second, this revolution relied on a religion, on Islam. There are many revolutions in which the roots of their struggle have been fed by a religious faith, albeit in the (?structure) of these revolutions faith is not given much consideration, if any at all. However, our revolution acquired all its qualities, its goals, principles, and even styles of struggle, as well as the form of the new system and the method of running it, from Islam.

This gives astonishing dimension to the revolution and a new meaning to its victory. Because of its high revolutionary and constructive potential, Islam has been subjected to an onslaught by the colonial powers and by their reactionary and feeble agents, at least during the last 150 years. In addition, Islam is a sacred faith and a divine religion in more than 50 countries and among 1 billion human beings. The victory of a revolution, whose soul is Islam, is in fact a victory against all those aggressors against the entire 1 billion people. Hundreds of millions of men and women, Muslim men and women, in dozens of countries, were proud of our victorious revolution. This particular feature of the revolution also overcomes feelings of retreat, defeat, weakness, and fear on the part of the people, by the leader of the revolution and of its managers. There is no defeat along the path of God; therefore, there is no weakness, fear, and retreat.

Third, another unique feature of this revolution was its independence from the East and the West. This remains the decisive policy of our revolutionary system at present, as well. This, in itself, is one of the manifestations of our belief and reliance on God in every aspect of our individual and social life. Today, the idea dominating the political arena says that without relying upon one of the power centers, one cannot survive in the contemporary political arena. Views may differ on the strength or weakness of this dependence, but no one doubts its validity. Even those who, in their view, have accepted the principle of independence and nonalignment, believe that in practice this is not possible. In such a climate, our revolution put forward a new philosophy and has remained committed to it. Our revolution has proved that it is possible to keep out the hegemonist powers and to ignore their bullying and not take it seriously; it has proved that it is possible to refuse their blackmail, on the condition that one believes in a leverage point stronger than any earthly power, that is, God. We have realized that for the sake of this belief and this path, we must pay a heavy price. We have prepared ourselves for this. Let this experience lead the nations to true and complete independence and, ultimately, to total negation of the big, global, hegemonist powers. The present trend of power division is threatening humanity with a bitter future.

Fourth, our revolution has had and continues to have one more distinctive characteristic—the exceptional enmities and blows directed against it. No revolution stays free from the hostility of domineering orders in the world; but the diversity, depth, expansiveness, and anger of the hostilities which have been directed against us during the last 9 years tell an exceptional and interesting story. The revolution had yet to achieve victory when this enmity began, especially from the United States. Authorities who have accepted the passage of time as authorization to reveal hidden secrets today confess that during the last months of the monarchical-tyrannical regime, the U.S. presidential establishment—the security adviser to the President and the President himself—were reassuring the shah and encouraging him to show decisiveness. The purpose behind such decisiveness was later detailed in the words of a person by the name of General Huyser, who was sent by the U.S. President on a special mission to Tehran. From his point of view, and according to recommendations made to him, the shah's regime had to be safeguarded, even if it cost tens of thousands of lives. It was argued, ostensibly in a justified manner, that this was better then killing many times those numbers later on.

According to the U.S. regime, the supposition that with the presence of U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Iran one can prevent shedding the blood of tens of

thousands on that day and several times more than that later on was fully related. [sentence as heard] Certainly, the failure of Huyser's mission, his escape from Tehran, and the arrest or the flight of all those on whom the United States had pinned its hopes for its horrible plan was caused by the strength of the revolution and the great power of a nation which had risen for the sake of God and which feared no one but God.

It was not the enemies of the revolution who gave up; the revolution drove every enemy out of the field. The enemy, by the hand of the traitor shah, had already brought to bear every kind of pressure possible. After the revolution's victory, hostile plots began in various other forms. The first was an all-out endeavor to infiltrate enemy agents into the management of the revolution. Later, taking advantage of the open political atmosphere after the oppression of several decades, the enemy began to organize parties and groups opposed to the revolution.

It is interesting to cite the case of a devoted pawn, who was not all that famous, and who several weeks after the success of the revolution, was recognized as a traitor and a criminal in the court of the revolution. He succeeded in becoming the commander of the Air Force by instigating various schemes. In another instance, it suffices to say that a wide spectrum from royalist to communist, from separatist to pan-Iranist was involved.

Let us not forget that some foreign embassies in Tehran, including the U.S. Embassy, were centers for directing and supporting some of these groups.

Ruthless terrorism was another harsh measure of hostility against the revolution. The groups, without any popular base and by stealing arms and ammunition—which was an easy task in those days—and later with the support of foreign governments, created the biggest terrorist network in Iran. Single and group assassinations, horrific explosions, hijackings, abductions, and gruesome cases of torture and murder were some of the acts carried out by several terrorist groups in Iran who enjoyed the support of notorious enemies of the revolution. The victims of this wave of brutality and barbarism were members of every strata of society, from the highest ranking state and revolution leaders to ordinary members of society; that is, workers, toilers, women, children, and unwary passers-by.

Today, the leaders and members of the same terrorist groups, who have mostly claimed responsibility for their crimes, are enjoying immunity and a comfortable lifestyle in the United States, France, and other Western countries, and are known as members of the opposition challenging the revolution. Those countries often accuse the Islamic Republic of terrorism. One of the most amazing games of diplomacy is the fact that sometimes the most innocent victims of blind and ruthless terrorism are accused of terrorism, and this is done by those who have played a big role in encouraging the terrorists from the start and giving them refuge later.

As the president and servant of my country, and as one who has been a victim of one of these ruthless acts of terrorism which was aborted by God, I am proud that my nation did not tremble in the face of these cruel acts of brutality. Other unprecedented incidents—in one case 72 leaders and high-ranking pioneers of the revolution, including several ministers, a number of Majlis deputies, and some illustrious, responsible officials, and that unique personality of the revolution, martyr Beheshti, lost their lives; in another incident the president and the prime minister were martyred at the same time—resulted in strengthening the nation's faith and reliance on God and increased its revolutionary wrath. As for attempted coups, this traditional, bloody tool of the big powers—used against all revolutions—was also tried in Iran several times. Once it nearly reached a dangerous level. Had it not been for the vigilance of officers and the assistance of the people, the prediction of the U.S. general would have been realized. There would have been a bloodbath with millions massacred on several occasions.

The most terrible and tragic hostility of our enemies was the imposed war; they aroused the ambitions of a neighbor by persuading him to attack and by assuring him of support and assistance. Today, after 7 years, everyone can be clearly certain that the attack by the Iraqi Armed Forces on 22 September 1980, 19 months after the establishment of the Islamic Republic, was launched by 10 divisions and hundreds of fighter-bombers, from land, sea, and air. Its only goal was expansionism and the annexation of part of Iran, something that the Iraqi, non-Iraqi, and hireling books and press have repeatedly referred to. They also wanted to defeat the revolution and bring about the collapse of the Islamic Republic. They have repeatedly announced both these goals, thus exposing their aims. Iraq could gain great results from such a victory, including the stabilization of its internal affairs, thus establishing itself in the region and on the Arab scene as a superior power. This was a great gain from the criminal individuals ruling Iraq. They also intended to stretch their maritime border along an important zone of the Persian Gulf. Following such a victory—which would have inevitably led to Iran's defeat, its dismemberment, and the collapse of the Islamic Republic's regime—the hegemonist powers would have achieved a significant goal: the elimination of a system that, after its appearance, has changed the political-economic equilibrium of the region and has ousted global arrogance, particularly the United States, from the great country of Iran.

The United States and other parties believe that if we are defeated, then the status quo will be restored and the usual cycle of economic, political, and other methods of control will resume. At first, we were caught unawares. We admit this. Being tied down with numerous domestic matters of the revolution and lacking in experience, we carried a heavy burden. However, we were saved by the nature of the revolution. Within a few months, the people and the Armed Forces miraculously arrived on the scene and made great efforts. They created a great epic by liberating important parts of the (?usurped) territory. The tragedy that has taken place in the interval

is truly unexplainable. Many prospering cities such as Khorramshahr, Abadan, Hoveyzeh, and Qasr-e Shirin were turned into dust. Dezful itself was hit by 173 surface-to-surface missiles. Many prospering villages were left without a wall standing. Many plants were turned into twisted piles of steel. Many invaluable cultural treasures were damaged. Most dear of all, many honorable lives and innocent people were wiped out. War crimes—including savage attacks on civilian residential quarters, massacres of thousands of defenseless women and children, the abduction of ordinary passengers along captured roads during the first few weeks of the war, and violations of international agreements and norms by extensively using chemical weapons, the bombing of merchant vessels and civilian and passenger airliners, as well as ordinary passenger trains—have always been among the routine and well-known Iraqi actions throughout the war.

At the first opportunity, following the primary stages of the war, when the events were being analyzed, the Iranian nation realized a bitter fact: security based on trusting words and agreements with an aggressive and troublemaking element was very shaky and unworthy, and reliance on such security was foolish and illogical. The head of the Iraqi regime explicitly announced that his 1975 agreement with the Iranian Government, known as the Algiers Accord, was not mandatorily enforceable as it had been drawn up at a time of weakness on the part of Iraq. He tore it up and within a few days began his attack.

This was a bitter but telling lesson for our nation, because at that moment our vigilant and revolutionary nation made its decision and mapped out its strategy. Our objectives included the return of our occupied land and receiving war reparations. Although these were the just rights of the Iranian nation, nothing was done despite the severe damage. The more important objective was that of punishing the aggressor and rooting out the apparatus of aggression.

By raising the issue of punishing the aggressor, not only were we seeking a firm basis for our national security, but we were also seeking to ensure security and stability for the entire region. If, once the aggressor is punished by the international family, one could be certain that at least for a number of years this aspiration—which has always exists among aggressive and opportunistic elements—would be abated, then the region and perhaps the world would no longer endure the calamity of an aggressive and senseless war.

The Nuremberg trials were able to guarantee peace and security in war-infested Europe for more than 40 years. Why should we not make use of that experience? Even at a time when thousands of kilometers of our territory were under the jackboots of the usurping aggressors, big powers were making use of very powerful propaganda to put pressure on us to accept a cease-fire. In return, a promise was made that a committee would be formed to force the aggressor to return to international borders. This meant that we would have left a part of our being, a part of our honor, under the heel of the enemy. To regain this territory would mean to go begging to this or that international committee. For a great, proud, and revolutionary nation there would be no greater insult than that. Even the least intelligent people in the world needed only to look at the tragic and bloodstained fate of the Palestinian nation to see a great and living example of such an insult. If imposed cease-fires and deceptive and futile promises had been able to make the Palestinian nation achieve its clear and certain rights, then would they enable other nations to achieve their rights too?

Although we have liberated the greater part of our occupied territories as a result of the heroic struggle of our nation and of the sacrifice of thousands of precious lives—even now some areas, including Naft-e Shah, are still under the occupation of the aggressive forces—we still regard our most important goal to be the punishment of the aggressor. Today, by assessing the great and irreparable resources destroyed as a result of the imposed war, we attach even greater importance to the punishment of the aggressor than before. Without this, we regard any other gain for our nation as a loss. We who have endured the 7-year-long burden of the imposed war are more anxious for peace than anyone else. However, we believe that peace, enduring peace, can only be achieved with the punishment of an aggressor who has compounded the sin of aggression with many other offences in the war.

Today, as in 1975, Iraq is in a position of weakness, and the whole world knows this. The peace which is accepted by that regime today will be instantly violated by that regime if it believes that it has power, and the flames of war will again engulf the region. The only guarantee for the future is for the aggressor to be punished.

Peace is undoubtedly a beautiful and attractive word, so much so that even major international warmongers and those who have amassed world-destroying weapons show interest in it and hypocritically talk about it. However, in our view, justice—a term which the powerful and the aggressors always view with fear and caution—is greater and more important than peace. How many wronged ones sacrificed their lives, their comfort, and their peace for the sake of achieving justice? They have always been known as heroes. European cities still pride themselves for their resistance against Hitler's aggression. Leningrad is still proud of its scorched-earth policy which rendered Napolean's forces ineffective and which eliminated them, and of its 4-year-long resistance when it was under the siege of Nazi forces.

The United Nations, especially on the basis of the first article of its Charter, is dutybound to safeguard justice in its special form; namely, confronting the aggressor. This is what we demand from the world and from the United Nations. Great powers are hypocritically calling this war, which has been imposed on us, as senseless at a time when they provide military, political, and economic support to the aggressive side which instigated the war.

There is no doubt that the imposition of such a war is always senseless; but so long as the aggressor believed it could achieve its evil goals, the war was not described in those terms. However, today this war has a very important meaning for our nation; namely, a relentless and self-sacrificing effort to eliminate the root of aggression and to prove that a nation is able, despite the wishes of great powers, to defend its revolution, its stability, and its honor. With self-sacrifice and devotion, our nation is busy smashing and negating an equation which has always encouraged aggression and war, and that equation is reliance upon advanced weapons and reliance upon powers' guarantees of success.

During these 7 years, the Iranian nation has sought the answer to a great question. From this podium I wish to raise that question. The question is why have the governments who have clearly and decisively realized that the Iraqi regime ignited the flames of war and started the aggression—and there are many who know this reality—kept silent regarding this great offence, this international violation? Why have the world mass media forgotten their great responsibility toward human conscience, toward history, with regard to this matter? Familiarity with political relations in the present world and the faulty geometry which the domination of big powers has inflicted upon international relations could solve this puzzle. Our nation knows this.

However, the question to which one cannot find an acceptable answer is why has the UN Security Council, an organization which came into being in order to confront aggression and to enforce international security, completely forgotten its duties regarding this aggression, and has even acted contrary to them. It is right that everyone should know that at the beginning of the Iraqi invasion, which took place along a 1,000-kilometer long front, the Security Council did nothing. In 1 week, the Iraqi Armed Forces overran international boundaries, and in some places they advanced 70, 80, or 90 kilometers deep and deployed there with the purpose, as was asserted by some Iraqi leaders, of never leaving. It was only afterward that the first Security Council resolution was issued on 28 September 1980.

This resolution did not refer to the aggression, nor the occupation, nor the return to international boundaries. Instead, surprisingly, it invited the two sides not to resort to more forceful measures. This description, in fact, turned a blind eye to the territory captured by the aggressive Iraqi forces and simply asked Iraq not to go any further. It also asked Iran not to wage a war in order to push back the aggressor. This was the first step taken by the Security Council in which the main duties of the Council, that is, protecting international peace and security, were trampled on by the same Council in an ugly and regrettable manner. Afterward, the Security Council was shrouded in a deathlike silence and forgot this bloody and prolonged war until the liberation of Khorramshahr, the operation which broke the backbone of the occupying forces and during which thousands of them were abjectly captured—in spite of the fact that the news about the war made headlines all over the world.

In this period, the heroic actions of our nation and the formation of our fighting forces indicated that a young, revolutionary, and determining force was in the making. The world powers thus lost any hope of achieving their evil goals as a result of the attack by Iraq on Iran. That was why, once again, the Security Council remembered the Iran-Iraq war. A few weeks after the capture of Khorramshahr, the Council passed its second resolution, on 12 July 1982.

This resolution called for a return to the international boundaries, a goal which had partly been achieved as a result of our nation's selflessness and the unparalleled courage of our fighters. This resolution did not mention the aggression, nor did it name the aggressor. It did not refer to the damage caused, nor to any reparations. Finally, it did not give a guarantee of real security and stability, nor did it mention punitive measures against the cause of this lack of security.

Once again, we found ourselves alone in our efforts to restore our rights. Up to this day, the Security Council has always adopted the same position toward the war which was imposed upon us. The independent initiatives of the secretary general sought to find a solution and to help the United Nations achieve its aims. However, this possibility was not explored further. Here, I would like to express our satisfaction with his excellency's efforts. I would also like to mention the late Swedish prime minister, Olaf Palme, the representative of the secretary general, for his sympathetic efforts.

The secretary general's trip to Tehran and the beneficial negotiations on Resolution No 598 are another step along this path. We consider these negotiations realistic and helpful in finding a solution. We believe the secretary general's report to the Security Council has the same approach. Unfortunately, we feel that some of the influential members of the Security Council would like to deny this fact. They are the same people who directed their efforts in passing this resolution in order to exert pressure on the Islamic Republic. We have communicated our clear position in this regard to the secretary general and expect the Security Council to do its duty and make proper use of the opportunity given to the secretary general.

Can the Security Council defend in any way the fact that it has not done its primary duty, that is, fight aggression, as mentioned in Article 1 of the Charter and considered more important than its other aims? How much pressure has the Security Council put on Iraq to stop its threats to peace and use of force, as mentioned in Article 7? Impartiality is the least that the Islamic Republic should expect from the Security Council, having itself been subjected to bloody and damaging aggression, even though it is the duty of the Council to fight against aggression, protect the victim of aggression, and remain

impartial. However, can the Security Council dare claim it has remained impartial in this connection?

We feel that having been influenced by the will and demands of some superpowers, especially the United States, the Security Council has been placed in an improper and damning position. In that case, it must be said that the security based on the support of such a Security Council is a pretentious cardboard palace. Nations, especially Third World nations, those which would like to live in complete independence from the superpowers, can never ask such a Council to guarantee their security. Refusing to condemn Iraq as the aggressor has kept the fire of the imposed war ablaze and has even helped it to spread.

At present, because of the military presence of the United States and other countries that have followed the arch satan as a result of its pressure and insistence and have entered the region, the Persian Gulf has become a dangerous powder keg.

I deem it necessary to draw the attention of the UN General Assembly and U.S. public opinion to the very grave and imminent danger reflected in the recent step taken by the U.S. regime in the Persian Gulf which threatens the entire world, not just the region. Yesterday, U.S. warships attacked the Iranian merchant ship *Iran Ajr*. Five died and four were wounded. The ship was captured and a number of personnel were taken hostage. U.S. television reported this news yesterday as an attack against a ship which was planting mines and, as usual, lied to the people of the world. I would like to announce here that the ship in question was the merchant ship *Iran Ajr* and not a gunboat. This is the beginning of further explosions, the bitter aftermath of which will, no doubt, not be limited to the Persian Gulf. The responsibility for all subsequent incidents falls on the shoulders of the initiator; namely, the United States.

What should we believe: the impatient U.S. calls for establishing peace in the Persian Gulf or its obvious act of warmongering? I hereby declare that the United States will receive its just reward for this shameful act. This is only one of the evil results of the imposed war and of the inability of the Security Council to confront Iraqi aggression. If the Security Council had condemned Iraq for starting the imposed war, the war of cities, and the tanker war, then the United States would not have been able to go against the pressures of world public opinion and U.S. public opinion by threatening the world's peace and security in such a blatant manner, immediately after and in spite of Resolution No 598 which the United States itself initiated.

Was Resolution No 598 drawn up purely for the sake of exerting pressure on the Islamic Republic? I should announce to the entire world, especially to the great American nation, that the threatening U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf is only one of the overt aggressions of the U.S. regime against our nation. The history of our nation is passing through a black, bitter, and bloody chapter filled with all kinds of animosity and vengefulness on the part of the U.S. regime, including 25 years of support for the dictatorial and executioner Pahlavi regime with all its crimes against our nation; the plunder of the nation's wealth with the shah's collusion; serious confrontation against the revolution in the last months of the shah's regime, encouraging him to suppress the demonstrations of our people; acts of sabotage against the revolution by different means in the early years after the victory; provocative contacts of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran with counterrevolutionary elements; help for the coupists; continuous assistance to the terrorist and counterrevolutionary elements outside the country; confiscation of Iran's assets and resources and the refusal to hand over the items paid for long ago; the refusal to return the assets which the shah took from the national treasury and deposited in U.S. banks in his own name; attempts to impose an economic embargo and to create a united Western front against our nation; open and effective support for Iraq in the war against us; and finally, the illogical and bullying despatch of forces to the Persian Gulf, thus seriously endangering security in the region.

These constitute part of our nation's bill of indictment against the U.S. regime, an indictment that casts serious doubt upon all the peace-loving claims and the remarks of the leaders of that regime regarding goodwill toward the Islamic Republic. These claims apparently serve no purpose other than to solve their own domestic problems.

The latest example on the list of U.S. hostility toward our nation is the bloody tragedy which was enacted in holy Mecca and in the safe house of God against innocent and defenseless pilgrims. Nearly 400 Iranians and non-Iranians, mainly women, were martyred and many more times that number were beaten up, injured, and wounded. Certain evidence shows that U.S. hands were involved in that unprecedented historical tragedy.

Can the U.S. regime and its Saudi lackeys provide a satisfactory answer for the massacre of so many innocent and wronged men and women? Those who created that calamity are undoubtedly forced to find some excuses and make certain allegations in order to justify their action. However, the nature of an incident, which on the one hand involved nearly 400 dead pilgrims, mainly women, and on the other hand, involved local police armed with machineguns, clubs, and poisonous gases, cannot tolerate any excuses. It is true that blood, which has been shed unjustly and with cruelty and tyranny, will convey a powerful message, not only for today but for all time, and will reveal the bloody hand. Yet the incident at Mecca, in view of the fact that it demonstrates the collaboration of U.S. policy with Arab reaction and reveals their covert actions in the Persian Gulf region, assumes global dimensions and deserves to be clearly studied in international organizations.

I deem it necessary to say most emphatically that this indictment is against the leaders of the U.S. regime, not against the American nation— which itself would sign

such an indictment had it been informed of its government's actions against a nation. Our nation has proved that it believes in its goals and is steadfast in implementing them up to the point of sacrificing its life. Such a nation is not afraid of the United States or of any other nation, and with God's assistance it will demonstrate that victory belongs to truth and to the followers of truth.

Mr President, Mr Secretary General, honorable members, this was the fate of our revolution, a revolution which, although giving rise to an extensive wave of hope among nations that had been afflicted by world arrogance, also gave rise to an equally extensive wave of opposition among the centers of world domination. However, no matter how serious, profound, and diverse these waves of opposition were, they were unable to uproot a tree that had its roots in the depths of our hearts and that was growing stronger with each passing day, despite all the stones that were thrown at it and the injuries inflicted on it.

Now let the world see, and it does see, that regardless of the powers' animosity, we are still alive and will remain alive. Divine precedents in history have shown that this will not be otherwise; this is our most important and most eloquent message. The system of hegemony has always tried to prove the opposite and to regard its will as the factor determining the fate of Third World nations and countries. We proved it wrong. There is no doubt that the system of hegemony did not want to see the continued existence of the Islamic Republic, but our willpower prevailed. Our message to all the nations and governments wishing to remain independent and free from the domination and will of the big powers of the world is that they should not be afraid of them and should instead rely upon themselves and their nations.

Our revolution regards its great message to be the negation of the system of international hegemony. Today, the world is divided between big and hegmonistic powers that regard themselves as masters of the world. In another interpretation, the world has been divided into two camps of the dominant and the dominated, with the first camp regarding itself as being in charge of the second camp's destiny. The system of hegemony concerns the existence of these unequal relations between these two parts of the world. The system of hegemony rejects revolutions and creates difficulties for revolutionary regimes. Nicaragua and revolutionary countries in southern Africa are living examples of this fact. The system of hegemony makes decisions for various nations despite these nations' own wishes: Wronged Palestine is one example; Afghanistan is another.

The system of hegemony exploits definitions to suit itself and changes them to its own advantge by using all its might to make this work. Terrorism and human rights are among the exploited terms. The system of hegemony even directly attacks those countries that have displeased it. Recent examples of such acts are the U.S. attacks against Libya and Grenada. The system of hegemony makes decisions for all the world and for all nations. An example from the past is Hiroshima. Today, the U.S. President is proud of the horrendous deed of his predecessors, arguing that if those thousands had not been killed, many more would then have been killed all over the world. Thus he displays the U.S. custodian-like sympathy toward the whole world. The system of hegemony supports fascist and racist regimes, such as Israel and South Africa, using them as armed hands to shed the blood of oppressed nations. Muslim Lebanon, which patiently resists the criminal aggressions of the Zionists, is an obvious example. The Frontline States of southern Africa are other examples. The system of hegemony permits itself the right to exert pressure on international organizations. U.S. pressure on the Security Council and UNESCO is an example of this. The system of hegemony considers the interests of hegemonists as absolute and as reason enough to disregard the interests of others. An example of this is the tension-creating and dangerous presence of the U.S. fleet in the Persian Gulf. This fleet is there on the pretext of guarding U.S. interests, without any regard for the interests of the region's countries. Finally, the system of hegemony has taken the propaganda machines of the world in hand and distorts facts and presents such evil deeds as acts of service. It thus blocks the paths leading to confrontation between world public opinion and itself.

Our message to all Third World nations and governments, as well as to nations whose governments are the creators of the system of hegemony, is that the world should not have to tolerate such an unpleasant situation. The superpowers and governments should be told by all to remain in their own territories and to leave the world to the people of the world. You are not their custodians.

There are two types of improper discrimination within the United Nations: the right to veto and permanant membership in the Security Council. This discrimination should be eliminated. This is the only way that the United Nations and the Security Council can both become the true focal point of the hopes of all nations, as well as solve their problems there. Otherwise, the Security Council will forever remain the place where discredited orders and unimplemented decrees are issued. Nations will continue to feel that there is no place to resolve international issues and that violence is the only path.

Our message to the countries of the Third World is that as long as the system of hegemony and the present situation remains, they should try to unite as this is the best way to become powerful. Hegemonists do not understand any language other than that of force and power. So, the language of power they employ should be answered by a similar language.

The nations' awareness and their knowledge of the nature and the role of the system of hegemony are the most important supports for the Third World governments that would give them real power in the face of hegemonists. Leaders of these governments do not have any solution to the situation other than their nations'

clear thinking and strong will. The unity that we are suggesting to the countries of the Third World is not a unity that would enable them to fight superpowers. It is instead a unity that would cause them to be able to defend themselves and to guard their rights.

The hegemonist powers are the largest factors in justifying and spreading corruption—corruption in morality, in sex, and in belief. They all find support and their main followers in political, economic, and espionage motives [as heard]. This is why today, in a black and bitter world that includes the nations of the superpowers as well, moral values are lost, foundations of the family are shaken, evils of alcholism and addiction are more prevalent than ever, and the attraction of moral values and spirituality is declining. In our own countries we should begin a serious struggle against corruption. We should fortify the foundations of our families. We should turn the first and most important nurturing ground of human beings into a cradle of love, sincerity, affection, and spirituality. We should emphasize guarding the rights and values of women and revise the present values that are products of the hands and minds of the same system of hegemony. We should seriously seek to liberate women from their image as a tool of pleasure, an image that the Western system of hegemony has imposed on them. A woman is a scientist, a politician, a manager, an outstanding personality, and, moreover, a wife and a mother. However, she is not a tool for giving pleasure or to pass the time with. In this way, half of humanity will regain its true nature and character, and the family will gain a permanant and holy foundation.

These are the messages of our revolution, addressed not only to those who are waiting to hear them but also to those who are able to push aside obstacles and listen to just judgements.

Briefed by Perez de Cuellar

LD231925 Tehran IRNA in English 1912 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] United Nations, Sept. 23, IRNA—United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar briefed President 'Ali Khamene'i on his detailed report to the U.N. Security Council, in a meeting here Tuesday night.

The U.N. chief said his report to the Security Council was not only based on his legal duty but also was morally in accordance with realities.

Terming the report as "positive and accurate", President Khamene'i said in reply that despite U.N. chief's successful mission the U.S. is trying to portray it as unsuccessful and Washington's propaganda in this regard is aimed at paving the way for more adventurism.

Evidences show that the U.S. is after exacerbation of tension, an example of which was its attack on an Iranian cargo ship in the Persian Gulf, Khamene'i told Perez de Cuellar. "The secretary general and the Security Council should take appropriate reaction against the unprovoked attack which threatens regional peace and security", said the president.

Pointing that the incident has seriously angered the Iranian people Khamene'i said "We have no other alternative but to defend ourselves". If Washington imagines it can pressure Iran to retract from its principles through such incidents "it is terribly mistaken", he added.

The president also reiterated the naming and condemnation of the aggressor party in the Iraq-Iran war as means for realisation of justice.

Meets Nakasone, FRG's Genscher

LD232336 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone met and conferred with Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, our nation's president, on Tuesday night. In this meeting, which was also attended by the two country's foreign ministers, Mr Nakasone expressed his country's interest in continuing friendly relations and cooperation with Iran. In citing the United States' attack in the Persian Gulf on a commercial vessel belonging to Iran, he conveyed his regrets and condolences to the families of those who were martyred in this attack.

Mr Khamene'i, in referring to the trend of expanding relations between the two countries during the length of Mr Nakasone's term in office, then stated: We sense that we have a friend in you and the Japanese nation. We are aware of your efforts to revise the Security Council resolution and we thank you.

Our president also received, in his own residential compound, Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the FRG foreign minister. International issues were discussed and reviewed during their meeting.

Tehran Cites News Conference

LD231726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] In a press, television, and radio interview this afternoon at UN Headquarters, our president replied to various questions asked by journalists. In this interview, which just finished a few moments ago, the president described the viewpoints of the Islamic Republic of Iran on international issues, the imposed war, and the U.S. efforts to create tension in the Persian Gulf.

In this interview, the details of which have not yet been received, Mr Khamene'i considered that naming the aggressor was the first step toward the realization of justice. He said that the United States' obstructive deeds were in line with Iraq's interests and those of White House officials aimed at confusing the positive steps taken by the UN secretary general.

Pointing to the contradictory claims of U.S. officials in connection with the Iranian vessel attacked by U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf, the president emphasized:

This vessel was a merchant vessel. Mr Khamene'i said: The American people have the right to ask their government and officials why they are dragging their country toward war.

The details of this interview will be brought to your attention in later news bulletins.

U.S. Takes 'First Steps' to War

LD232232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] President Khamene'i, in an all-media interview at the UN headquarters on Wednesday afternoon attended by 100 journalists from different countries, expounded on the viewpoints of the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to international issues, notably the imposed war and the creation of tension by the United States in the Persian Gulf.

The president of our country, in connection with the latest U.S. mischief—its attack on an Iranian vessel in the Persian Gulf—warned the United States about a repeat of the scenes of the Vietnam war in the Persian Gulf, and said: We are certain that a repeat of the Vietnam event would be a bitter pill for the American people. Today, we are the ones who are receiving the bodies of our compatriots in the Persian Gulf. However, if the bodies and corpses of young Americans are returned from the Persian Gulf by Reagan's Administration and handed over to the American people, what kind of reply will Washington give them? The American people will tell White House officials: It was you who started the attack and caused the war to begin.

In response to a question of whether Iran is now in a stage of a war with the United States, Khamene'i said: I think that Washington has taken the first steps toward war. We do not want a full-fledged war to occur between us and the United States, but if this happens we have no choice but to defend ourselves. In any case, we reserve the right to retaliate in kind. The president of the Islamic Republic of Iran stressed that by attacking Iran's vessel in the Persian Gulf, the United States has made a greater mistake then that of the McFarlane affair. He said: The consequences of this episode will show what a great blunder the United States has made. This episode has introduced a new phase in the Persian Gulf war and has made U.S. public opinion aware of the possibilities of bloody events.

Pointing to the contradictory claims of U.S. officials regarding the Iranian vessel that was attacked by U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf, the president stressed: This vessel was a merchant vessel. Khamene'i said: The U.S. nation has the right to ask its government and officials why they are dragging their country toward war.

The Islamic president of Iran, in another part of his all-media interview to the crowds of journalists at UN Headquarters, explained: We have placed at the disposal of the United Nations secretary general a formula on how to use Resolution No 528 to reach a cease-fire in a form in which the punishment of the aggressor is the main point. He added: We are not saying in advance how the Iraqi regime should be punished and if a competent court should be set up. We would entrust to this court the question of how the aggressor should be punished.

In this interview, Khamene'i considered that the first step toward the realization of justice is to name the aggressor. He considered that the constructive deeds of the United States were in line with the interests of Iraq and those of White House officials, aimed at aborting the positive steps taken by the UN secretary general.

Offers 'Formula' on Resolution

LD240750 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] New York, Sept. 24, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i left here Thursday morning after attending the 42nd session of the U.N. General Assembly where he delivered an important speech outlining Iran's clear-cut stance on the Security Council Resolution 598, the situation in the Persian Gulf and consequences of foreign intervention in the region.

President Khamene'i was seen off by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, members of Iranian bureau at the U.N, and a group of Iranian students and Muslim supporters of the Islamic revolution.

During his stay here, President Khamene'i conferred with U.N. secretary-general, Security Council president, and a number of high-ranking officials who participated in the gathering.

On Wednesday, President Khamene'i attended a press conference and replied to questions of a group of world mass media representatives on various issues including Iran's rightful stance vis-a-vis recent U.S.-initiated crisis in the Persian Gulf.

The president stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran believed a lasting peace could be maintained only with the punishment of the aggressor Iraqi regime.

President Khamene'i said "We do not reject Resolution 598 of the Security Council and have offered a formula to the United Nations secretary general in this connection."

The main point, the president stressed, is the punishment of the aggressor and if it is solved all other issues would be solved as well.

On the nature of the punishment, President Khamene'i added if a just tribunal is formed, Iran would accept its verdict. Because, he said, a just tribunal would not ignore punishment of a war-monger who has even violated wartime regulations.

On recent U.S. attack on an Iranian cargo ship, President Khamene'i said the incident "is one of the biggest mistakes the Reagan Administration has made." He

stressed that the mistake is even greater than McFarlane's affair.

Khamene'i who is also head of the Supreme Defence Council said contrary to U.S. propaganda, the Iranian vessel was a cargo ship and not a military vessel.

President Khamene'i refuted U.S. allegations that the Iranian cargo ship was carrying mines and said even if the ship carried mines, the U.S. Navy could have ordered its interception and confiscation of its mines.

But, the president asked, what justifies America's attacking and killing of a number of people?

The head of the Supreme Defence Council noted that Iran was not willing to get involved in a full-fledged war with the U.S. but he added if this happens, Iran will fully defend herself.

On the Security Council, President Khamene'i said Iran did not reject the Council but rather protested against its failure to fulfill its obligations.

President Khamene'i said Iran was willing to help in securing the release of the Western hostages in Lebanon on humanitarian grounds. "But Lebanon is not an Iranian province," he added.

The situation in Lebanon is not such that Lebanese groups would accept whatever Iran wished, the president said. He added that these groups for their interest in the Islamic Republic had so far accepted Iran's demands and of course this would possibly be repeated in future.

Meanwhile President Khamene'i rejected allegations attributing an attack on a British vessel to Iran and said "we do not accept any responsibility for the attack."

On relations with Arab countries, the president said Iran had good relations with most Arab countries and even sincere ties with a number of them, adding that some of Arab states were Iran's best friends at international circles.

But, he stressed, the massacre of a large group of Iranian and non-Iranian hajj pilgrims in Mecca this year had left determining impacts on relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia which the Saudis could not justify.

On relations with France, President Khamene'i said Tehran was not interested in strained relations with Paris noting that if the French abandon the trend they are following, Iran would agree with normalisation of ties.

Departs for Geneva, Tehran

NC240555 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Report by unidentified correspondent from the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in New York on 24 September]

[Text] 'Ali Khamene'i, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who has been visiting UN Headquarters in New York, departed at 0600 hours today. He was seen off at the airport by Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati, several Iranian political figures, and Islamic students residing in the United States. They shouted the slogans "God is great," "Blessings on Khomeyni," and "Death to America," and then were warmly greeted by the president.

President Khamene'i will have a brief stopover in Geneva en route to Tehran.

During his stay at UN Heaquarters he gave a momentous speech to the 42d UNGA session, participated in important news conferences, and met prominent international political figures including Yasuhiro Nakasone, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and Javier Perez de Cuellar.

KEYHAN on Khamene'i Attendance

PM231401 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Sep 87 p 20

[Editorial by Yunes Shokrkhah: "A Look at the Reasons Behind the President's Presence at the 42d Session—Why Are We Going to the UN General Assembly?"]

[Text] President Khamene'i is going to participate in the 42d UN General Assembly on behalf of Iran. The president is going to the same assembly where martyr Rajai'e defended Iran's position with regard to world issues, especially the war. The president of Iran will continue this trend but will go to the General Assembly under different circumstances.

The UN General Assembly is the only place where world issues are discussed, regardless of their importance or their effect. Revolutionary societies take part in assembly sessions mostly to voice their positions from open microphones. For example, people like Ortega and Castro bring up the most controversial issues existing between themselves and the United States in the same way that they discuss such issues at nonaligned meetings. Not only can they defend themselves, they can inform world public opinion about U.S. terrorist activity.

The representatives of revolutionary societies talk about the injustices forced on them, and by mentioning their enemies' deeds, they lessen the pressures and the obstacles in their path toward the achievement of their long-term goals. All members of the General Assembly pay a membership fee and see no reason why in return for this fee they should place their microphones at the disposal of others. In addition to this, the representatives of revolutionary societies know well that their presence at the UN General Assembly does not give them special legitimacy; therefore, they will never allow others to use these microphones against them.

On the other hand, the representatives of revolutionary societies know the value of each UN organization and give them appropriate funds. For example, under the present circumstances, one cannot equate UNESCO with the General Assembly. There is a great deal of difference between the approaches of the UN Security Council and the General Assembly toward a defined issue such as the Iraqi war against Iran. UNESCO on the other hand has achieved a new prestige under its new leadership.

In any case, no revolutionary element can treat any UN organization in an absolute way, because, according to the president of the 41st session, "The United Nations has been suffering from a trust crisis in recent years." How can one totally trust an assembly where Reagan says: "Countries should no longer draw swords on one another." How can the General Assembly hear these slogans and yet claim to be struggling for a world without war?

All the members of the General Assembly are witness to the fact that the forces of the United States and its allies have "drawn swords" in the Persian Gulf. Even if the Assembly does not recognize U.S. aims as military ones, at least it knows that the United States is breaking the laws respected by the General Assembly. It has even ignored Resolution No 598, has violated the resolutions of the nonaligned nations, and has even ignored NATO boundaries. Today, it has become obvious that the United States has become a specialist at breaking common international codes, and all these issues give our president's trip a special sensitivity.

President Khamene'i is going before this session to represent a revolution which without a doubt is the unique creation of this century. The Iranian president is going to defend Iran's just position in the longest classic war in contemporary times. President Khamene'i is going at a time when the U.S. confrontation against Iran has reached its most tangible proportions. So our presence at the 42d session is a strong answer from Iran to the current political-military situation, a situation which has placed the Persian Gulf at the top of the world's concern.

The president will not ask for anything special at the General Assembly. He is going to represent a people who have risen, a dedicated group of fighters who are also dedicated to the 42nd assembly. As before, he will warn against attempts to force political and military issues on Iran's revolution. He will make it clear to the United Nations that if it, as an organization dedicated to peace, is not willing or able to enforce peace and punish the aggressor through its various mechanisms, the least it can do is recognize Iran's right in an all-out effort against war-mongering.

The president will remind the General Assembly that the Iranian people's effort to destroy "the principle of aggression" is the greatest service to world security. The United Nations will not see this security unless it says farewell to its past actions. The backbone of the president's words will be the power of a people and the fighters who can be ignored no longer. He will tell of the power which will only recognize sweet victory as an answer.

Majlis Speaker on U.S. 'Adventurism'

LD241006 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 24, IRNA—Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Thursday that the recent U.S. adventurism in the Persian Gulf which aimed at checking the voice of the revolution, had an adverse effect.

Speaking at the open session of the Majlis, Hashemi-Rafsanjani added as it was predicted, the U.S. attack on Iranian 'cargo' ship *Iran Ajr* instead of silencing Iran's rightful voice (a referrence to President Khamene'i's address at the U.N. General Assembly), "made our voice louder" and drew further attention.

President Khamene'i's strong words at the General Assembly revealed many mischievous acts of enemies of Islam, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, adding if the world really sought to face issues sincerely, there were many points in the president's statement to realise and understand.

Hahemi-Rafsanjani stressed that Iraqi crimes, vicious acts committed by counterrevolutionaries and their supporters, unjust attitude of dominant powers, and biased behavior of Western mass media were among topics in President Khamene'i's speech which was provoked [by] imperialism. He added more angry reactions should be expected from agents of imperialism in future.

"It is a source of pride for our people and world Muslims that the only voice which defends rightfulness and is against oppression is the voice of the Islamic Republic which has been subjected to domination-seeking of international arrogance," he concluded.

Views Majlis Support for War

LD231601 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Excerpts] With the elapse of 7 years since the beginning of the war imposed by the Iraqi regime on our Islamic country, we now enter the 8th year of this sacred defense. [passage omitted]

On this day during this war week we went to the Islamic Consultative Assembly and met with the honorable speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, Hashemi-Rafsanjani to seek his views.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] In the name and memory of God and with greetings to you dear listners of the People and Majlis Program. As part of our program called "On the Fringe of the Majlis," we are in the presence of His Excellency Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the honorable speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. [passage omitted] Please explain what duties the honorable members of the Majlis have with regard to our sacred defense, please, your excellency.

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The representatives of the Majlis, like other Muslims, have the duty of placing all their efforts at the disposal of this war, this sacred defense, which they do. I do not remember during the lifespan of the Islamic Consultative Assembly that any bill connected with the war faced difficulty in being enacted.

All the Majlis representatives regard the war as the most important problem of the country. Most of them bring pressure to bear on us to permit them to go to the battlefields. However, as we cannot suspend the Majlis and must keep the Majlis working, we cannot accept such requests. However, on a rotation basis and depending on circumstances, they go to the battlefields; the representatives are at the side of the combatant brothers.

On the threshhold of the 8th year of the war and at a time when signs of weakness in the Iraqi regime and its defeat can be fully seen, our representatives demand that the dear nation support the lines behind the frontline. So our brave, dear and courageous youth must be present on the battlefields to deliver more effective blows, especially under conditions when we see Western imperialism maintaining an armed presence in the region with impunity and no shame. The most telling and strongest response to their presence is to be present on the frontline and to deliver more effective blows. Thus, we can make them sorry for what they have done. Peace be upon you. [end recording]

Musavi Vows 'Decisive Response'

LD231715 Tehran IRNA in English 1701 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept 23, IRNA—The U.S. will be given a decisive response for its unprovoked attack on an Iranian cargo ship in Persian Gulf waters last Monday, warned Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Wednesday. "Washington will pay dearly for its crime," he vowed.

The premier made the remarks during a ceremony held at a school here, marking the start of the new academic year for the estimated 12 million students in the country.

Addressing students, Musavi said "You are studying for Islam and country and can one day contribute to the nation's progress, which has been kept under-developed by tyrannical kings and exploiters such as the U.S."

Iran was freed with the triumph of the Islamic revolution, said the premier, noting that students are now studying in a pure Islamic atmosphere that did not exist prior to 1979.

Musavi said that those children who have been born and brought up in the post revolution era cannot even imagine the polluted atmosphere of a Westernized monarchy.

"Before the revolution, we could not get rid of the disgusting faces of Americans and other foreigners who popped up at every corner of the streets. American and European experts were there in the Army, factories and offices, skillfully plundering the natural resources of the country. In such an environment it was impossible for children to mature properly and for teachers to speak freely," noted Musavi.

Noting that Iranian experts have achieved great successes since the victory of the Islamic revolution, Premier Musavi said that 12 million students are now studying to administer the country's universities, factories and farms in the future and to revive the great Islamic civilization in the world.

Musavi-Ardabili on 'Merchant' Ship

LD231753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Excerpt] In today's session of the Supreme Judicial Council, Musavi-Ardabili, chairman of the State Supreme Court, in referring to the episode of an Iranian vessel that became the target of U.S. helicopters' fire and the pure fabrications of U.S. propaganda that claimed this vessel was in the act of laying mines, stated: While we explicitly declare that this vessel was a merchant and supply ship and not a military vessel, we at the same time condemn this mischief and cruel aggression of the criminal United States. We additionally consider this move to be an example of U.S. bullying and tension-fomenting, as well as an open violation of Security Council Resolution No 598. We call on international assemblies and judicial and legal circles to put maximum effort into preventing actions that severely jeopardize world peace. [passage omitted]

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Communique No 2,968

LD231648 Tehran IRNA in English 1619 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 23, IRNA—As a reprisal against the Iraqi Regime's recent air attacks on Iran's civilian areas, long-range artillery fire blasted enemy economic, military and industrial centers in the eastern Iraqi towns of Banmil, Naft Khaneh and Zurbatiyah Tuesday inflicting heavy losses, said a military communique here Wednesday.

In its 2968th communique, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported that at least 15 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and 10 enemy gun emplacements as well as several vehicles were destroyed in the southern fronts in artillery duels with the Muslim combatants yesterday.

Exchange of artillery and tank fire continued in the western and northwestern sectors Tuesday raging somewhat more heavily in Maymak and Qasr-e Shirin, with Iranian forces holding the upper hand.

Iran's Muslim combatants reconnoitered and shelled an Iraqi patrol convoy in Helaleh, western fronts, Tuesday night, inflicting several casualties on enemy patrols and forcing them to flee. An Iraqi munitions dump was set ablaze in Panjwin, northwestern fronts, yesterday.

Heavy Iranian artillery fire checked Iraqi engineering operations and movement of enemy motorized columns in Maymak and Hehran, western fronts yesterday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and inflicting heavy losses on them.

In Sumar, activities on an Iraqi patrol unit and reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters were checked by artillery fire.

Meanwhile, Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and inspected five cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday, but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying goods for Iraq, concluded the communique.

2 Million More To Receive Training

LD231649 Tehran IRNA in English 1626 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 23, IRNA—Two million more Iranian people will be trained militarily during the second phase of the training and organising of the '20-million-strong' Army, Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) announced here today. IRGC Al-Qods Hqs. will soon announce details of the programme for training of these forces who are to form the reserve strength of the Islamic revolution, said the headquarters.

Sri Lanka

Indian Troops Break Tamil Siege of Jaffna

BK221730 Hong Kong AFP in English 1641 GMT 22 Sep 87

[By Amal Jayasinghe]

[Excerpts] Colombo, Sept 22 (AFP) — Indian peacekeeping troops deployed in Sri Lanka escorted trains and vehicles to the northern Jaffna Peninsula Tuesday [22 September] breaking a week-long rebel siege of the Tamil-dominated town, Indian diplomats said.

Indian soldiers with orders to shoot set up pickets every 100 yards (meters) along an 80-kilometer (50-mile) approach road to Jaffna in an effort to prevent Tamil separatist attacks on vehicles, the diplomats said.

They said the action was aimed at fending off possible rebel attacks on vehicles, to restore the free movement of traffic in the area and to ensure that supplies reached Jaffna.

The pickets were set up as the dominant Tamil military group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), attacked a hideout Tuesday of a minor rebel group in Vavuniya, just south of Jaffna, killing at least nine people.

Residents of the area contacted by telephone said the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT) appeared to have been taken completely by surprise and did not offer resistance to the LLTE's dawn raid.

A hospital spokesman in Vavuniya said nine bullet-riddled bodies were brought there after the attack. Some 18 people were reportedly wounded but they did not come to the hospital for treatment, the spokesman said. Officials here said first reports suggested that as many as 20 people had died but there was no independent confirmation of this.

Meanwhile, Indian and Sri Lankan officials Tsuesday concluded a third round of talks on a proposed provincial council in Tamil dominated areas of the Island, but no decision was reached, Indian diplomats and officials here said.

Indian diplomats said their delegation forwarded "certain formulations" on behalf of minority Tamils which the Colombo government agreed to consider.

"Colombo is giving detailed consideration to the formulations with a view to ensuring that legislature that will finally emerge, will provide a durable and workable solution to the island's ethnic problem," a spokeswoman for the Indian High Commission said without elaborating.

In line with the Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord aimed at ending four years of communal strife which has claimed more than 6,000 lives, Tamils in the north and east will receive limited autonomy.

Sri Lankan officials said further talks would be held with the Indians to decide on "certain grey areas."

Troops Hurt by Protestors

BK231532 Hong Kong AFP in English 1504 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Colombo, Sept 23 (AFP)—Indian paramilitary troops were ordered into Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna Peninsula Wednesday [23 September], as at least nine Indian soldiers already deployed in the island were hurt by protesting Tamil militants, Indian officials said here.

(In New Delhi, an official spokesman said the Indian Government had decided to airlift a battalion—800 men—of the paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) to Jaffna.

("Units of the CRPF are shortly to be inducted into the Indian peace keeping force in keeping with the provisions of the Indo-Sri Lanka accord," he said.)

A Indian High Commission (embassy) spokeswoman said the decision was taken jointly by New Delhi and Colombo, but gave no reason for increasing the Indian presence in Sri Lanka.

About 7,000 Indian troops are deployed in the north and east of the country to monitor the July Indo-Sri Lankan peace pact aimed at ending the island's four-year old Tamil separatist conflict.

The spokeswoman was unable to specify how many paramilitary police troops had been ordered in. "We don't know the exact number or if the policemen have been ferried to Jaffna from south India," she said.

A Foreign Ministry source here said Colombo was expecting up to 400 men to land in the northern peninsula Wednesday as part of New Delhi's new tough stance against the dominant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

He said he did not know if the troops had already arrived.

Indian diplomats said at least nine soldiers were hurt late Wednesday when suspected LTTE members threw stones and attempted to storm a camp of the peace-keeping force in the northwestern Mannar District.

It was the first open confrontation between the group and Indian troops and among the first Indian casualties reported since the peace-keeping force arrived in Sri Lanka. Two Indian soldiers were killed in August while attempting to defuse a landmine in Jaffna.

The diplomats said LTTE fighters had demonstrated outside the camp, shouting anti-Indian slogans. They then attempted to storm the camp, throwing stones.

"The soldiers had opened fire to break the mob, but we don't know if anyone was either wounded or killed," a diplomat said.

Tamil sources here quoted the LTTE as saying that one of its men was killed and about 30 to 40 were wounded in the incident at Mannar, 310 kilometers (193 miles) northwest of Colombo.

India on the weekend charged the LTTE with trying to wreck the peace pact by attacking rival Tamil militants, and Indian peace-keeping troops Monday [21 September] were ordered to seize rebel weapons and shoot resisting militants.

Military sources here said the chief of India's southern military command, Deepender Singh, flew to Jaffna Wednesday from his Indian base for talks with LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran and his political advisor Anton Balasingham.

The Indian spokeswoman here said Indian High Commissioner Jyotindra Nath Dixit flew to Jaffna early Wednesday to assess the situation in the town and received a written request from Mr Prabhakaran seeking talks.

"The meeting was granted and the talks are still going on," an Indian diplomat said.

The LTTE, which is currently staging a non-cooperation campaign against the peace pact in Jaffna, has denied India's charges that it was behind recent internecine violence in the east in which more than 100 people were killed.

Since the non-cooperation campaign was launched last week to protest alleged violations of the peace pact by Colombo, LTTE members have been blocking traffic and disrupting civil administration in Tamil areas, diplomats said.

Tamil sources said shops and schools in Jaffna, closed since September 15, reopened Wednesday, indicating that the situation was returning to normal.

Indian Troops Arrive; Dixit Meets Prabhakaran
BK231219 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1130 GMT 23 Sep 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo Sept 23 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Indian High Commissioner Jyotindenra Dixit in Sri Lanka flew to Jaffna this morning for talks with LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran.

An Indian High Commission official told *Lanka Puwath* that the LTTE leader had made a request to meet the Indian high commissioner.

Prabhakaran had called on Mr Dixit at the Indian peace keeping force headquarters in Jaffna.

The Indian High Commission official said that it had been decided by the Government of India and the Government of Sri Lanka jointly, that the Indian Central Reserve Police Force [CRPF] would assist the local administration in performing police duties.

Meanwhile, official sources told *Lanka Puwath* that a contingent of the Indian C.R.P.F. had arrived this morning in Jaffna.

The official described the Indian Central Reserve Police Force as a para military force.

Arrangements for Return of Refugees Under Way
BK221650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] The Indian Government is in touch with Colombo to finalize arrangements for early return of Sri Lankan refugees back home. An official spokesman said in New Delhi this evening that a large number of Sri Lankan refugees now in India have expressed keenness to return soon. He said the government is in the process of tying up arrangements for shipping to take back the refugees to Sri Lanka. There are 135,000 such refugees in India. Of these, about 2,600 have gone back on their own.

The Indian Government is finalizing arrangements to airlift 15 persons belonging to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam to three detention camps in Sri Lanka at Boosa, Galle, and Colombo to identify some of their cadre members which the LTTE claims are still under detention. Nine Sri Lankan military personnel are still held by the LTTE. The Indian Government would like all prisoners on both sides to be released.

The Sri Lankan Government has also assured that there will be no more colonization [of Sinhalese in Tamil-dominated areas]. The Indian Government has taken up the matter with President Jayewardene.

The spokesman confirmed reports that the peacekeeping force had seized arms from 15 PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam] supporters yesterday.

Meanwhile, the third round of official-level talks between India and Sri Lanka has ended today with an agreement on a number of subjects relating to devolution of powers. On some other subjects, the Indian side submitted formulations on behalf of Tamils.

The peacekeeping force has intensified patrolling and set up pickets between Kilinochchi and Elephant Pass to ensure smooth traffic.